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OPINION METER
This week's poll:

Do you support the proposal for a Social Security buy-back for the CNMI?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

WORLD

Eleven-year-old Ali el-Sayed played dead to survive the Syria massacre.
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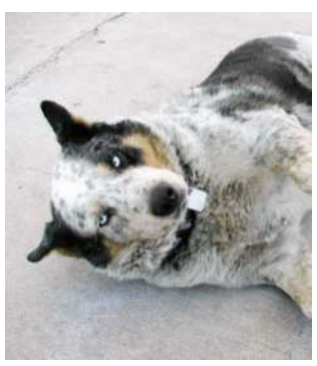
OFFBEAT



Blue the dog doesn't have a home but has $1,800 in savings and a Facebook page. ➤ PAGE 22

LIFE & STYLE

Fifty spellers advance to the semi-finals of the 85th Scripps National Spelling Bee. ➤ PAGE 23

Judge dismisses challenge to CW Final Rule. PAGE 2
US Army Reserve's troop store burglarized. PAGE 3

House fails to override veto

» Override action falls short of 3 votes to succeed
» Inos: Better to give back all contributions if no Social Security buyback

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House of Representatives failed to override yesterday the governor's veto of a bill allowing non-retired members of the NMI Retirement Fund to withdraw up to 50 percent of their contributions, to the disappointment of some 100 employees that filled the House lobby and chamber on Capital Hill.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
Active members of the Retirement Fund hold up small placards to push for the override of the governor's veto of House Bill 17-226. Some 100 employees filled the House lobby and chamber on Capital Hill during yesterday's session of the House of Representatives.

The override action on Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's veto of the compromise House Bill 17-226 got only 11 "yes" votes. This was short by three "yes" votes to meet the required 14 votes or two-thirds of the 20-member House.

Six House members voted "no" to the override, while three members were absent.

"We tried very hard but we didn't make it," Speaker Eli Cabrea (R-Saipan), author of HB 17-226, said at the end of the session.

Rep. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota) was excused from the session owing to the death of her mother, while

See HOUSE on Page 4

HOW THEY VOTED
Vote to the motion to override the governor's veto of House Bill 17-226

YES
1. **Speaker Eli Cabrera** (R-Saipan)
2. **Vice speaker Felicidad Ogumoro** (Cov-Saipan)
3. **Floor leader George Camacho** (Ind-Saipan)
4. **Rep. Ray Basa** (Cov-Saipan)
5. **Rep. Trenton Conner** (R-Tinian)
6. **Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero** (Ind-Saipan)
7. **Rep. Sylveste Iguel** (Cov-Saipan)
8. **Rep. Joseph Palacios** (R-Saipan)
9. **Rep. Froilan Tenorio** (Cov-Saipan)
10. **Rep. Stanley Torres** (Ind-Saipan)
11. **Rep. Edmund Villagomez** (Cov-Saipan)

NO
1. **House minority leader Joseph Deleon Guerrero** (R-Saipan)
2. **Rep. Ralph Demapan** (Cov-Saipan)
3. **Rep. Tony Sablan** (R-Saipan)
4. **Rep. Ray Tebuteb** (R-Saipan)
5. **Rep. Ray Palacios** (Cov-Saipan)
6. **Rep. Frank Dela Cruz** (R-Saipan)

ABSENT/EXCUSED
1. **Rep. Teresita Santos** (Ind-Rota)
2. **Rep. Janet Maratita** (Ind-Saipan)
3. **Rep. Ray Yumul** (R-Saipan)

NMI-RP FRIENDSHIP MONTH
CLARISSA V. DAVID
Acting governor Eloy S. Inos signs the proclamation designating June as Northern Mariana Islands - Philippines Friendship Month, as Consulate officer-in-charge Jose Sto. Domingo and staffer Liza Dean look on during yesterday's proclamation signing at the Governor's conference room on Capital Hill.

See story on Page 5

No more tsunami debris

» Japanese investors will still mine pozzolan

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

A group of Japanese investors is considering dropping a plan, at least for now, to ship tsunami debris from Japan to Pagan but it still wants to mine pozzolan on the island, a local associate of the group, along with government officials, said yesterday.

RELATED NEWS
➤ International campaign aims to save Pagan Island. PAGE 16

Minoru Imai, treasurer/secretary of Pagan (CNMI) Development Corp. which has been helping the Japanese investors, said the Japanese government itself has concerns about shipping tsunami debris to other areas outside Japan such as to the U.S. island of Pagan.

This, coupled with environmental and other

See TSUNAMI on Page 4

Local

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CW Final Rule challenge dismissed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona dismissed yesterday the lawsuit that challenges the implementation and enforcement of the CNMI-only transitional worker Final Rule.

Manglona, however, gave the plaintiffs 120 days, or no later than Sept. 28, 2012, to file an amended complaint. If an amended complaint is not filed by then, the case will be dismissed with prejudice, meaning the plaintiffs can no longer reopen the case.

In amending the complaint, Manglona said all claims should relate to the implementation, application, and enforcement of immigration laws of the United States in the CNMI and subject to the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008, Public Law 110-229, the Immigration and Nationality Act, and other law.

The plaintiffs are Bonifacio V. Sagana, Manuel T. Vilaga, Gerardo G. De Guzman, Hector T. Sevilla, Carlito J. Marquez, Eduardo M. Elenzano, and Jong Ho Lee. They are represented by attorney Stephen C. Woodruff.

The respondents are DHS Secretary Napolitano, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services District Director David Gulick, U.S. Labor Secretary Hilda L. Solis, and U.S. Department of Labor District Director Terrence Trotter.

The plaintiffs' lawsuit challenges the implementation and enforcement of the CW Final Rule, which according to Woodruff, is both procedurally and substantially defective.

On Wednesday, the plaintiffs, through Woodruff, filed a motion to dismiss the case, but with a request to allow them to amend the complaint so they could drop and add parties and claims.

Woodruff also said that some plaintiffs are concerned that a vigorous prosecution of the lawsuit at this time could jeopardize their own applications that are presently pending with the Department of Homeland Security.

The lawyer said the CNRA requires consultation and coordination with the CNMI governor. "Yet it is common knowledge that the CNMI governor is hostile to federal immigration control, even more hostile toward aliens in the CNMI, and has done, and continues to do, everything in his power to subvert the transition to U.S. immigration law in the CNMI," Woodruff said.

He pointed out that congressional intent in this transition needs to be carried out, and plaintiffs are convinced that can only happen if the court intervenes.

Woodruff noted that only a tiny fraction of the petitions filed have been adjudicated, almost eight months after the CW Final Rule went into effect.

He pointed out that a vast majority of U.S. Department of State embassies and consulates around the world remain clueless about how to process requests for the CW and E-2C visas necessitated by the CNRA.

"The embassy in Seoul, Korea, for example, only became able to process E-2C visas in January of this year and CW visas sometime later," Woodruff said.

He said the right of aliens in the CNMI to travel, both overseas and within the United States, is "arbitrarily, capriciously, and unjustly curtailed and impaired."

"CW and E-2C statuses place aliens in the CNMI in an inferior position compared to other nonimmigrant aliens elsewhere in the United States and impose wholly irrational burdens," he added.

Theodore W. Atkinson, a senior litigation counsel of the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Division, had asked the district court to dismiss the lawsuit.

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US Army Reserve's troop store burglarized

» Surveillance camera catches burglar breaking into troop store's storage room

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. Army Reserve Center's troop store in Puerto Rico, Saipan was burglarized on Wednesday and the suspect was caught on surveillance camera.

Police spokesman Jason Tarkong said yesterday that the items stolen were a 32-inch Panasonic LCD flat screen TV, HP 201 monitors, and Bose portable music systems, all estimated to be worth over $1,500.

Tarkong said the suspect is described as a light skinned male, about 5'7" to 5'10" tall, 170 to 180 lbs in weight, and with a mustache and goatee.

"The suspect is believed to be somewhere in his mid-20's to early 30's in age, has short dark hair, wearing a white or gray long-sleeved hoodie, with camouflage short pants," the officer said.

Tarkong said the police were informed about the break-in on Wednesday at 9:10am.

Police investigation showed that at 4am that day, the suspect used a bolt cutter to cut a padlock on a shipping container used as a storage room for the troop store.

The NMI Crime Stoppers Program is seeking the public's help for information on the incident and the suspect, said Tarkong, who is also coordinator for the Crime Stoppers Program.

Crime Stoppers pays up to $1,000 for any information leading to an arrest.

The 1,120-square-foot troop store was built in 1987.

2 women indicted for illegal production of ID document

Two women have been indicted in federal court for alleged unlawful production of an identification document.

Yufeng Lin, also known as Mary Lin, and Xiuqin Weng were taken to the U.S. District Court for the NMI yesterday for an initial court appearance.

Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona authorized their temporary release while the case is pending. The two will be arraigned on Tuesday, June 5, at 9am.

The indictment was filed under seal on Tuesday. The court unsealed the matter yesterday.

According to the indictment, on March 19, 2012, Lin and Weng without lawful authority caused the CNMI's Vital Statistics Office of the Department of Public Health to produce a birth certificate for a child. No other details were given in the indictment. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Govt extends deadline for healthcare analysis RFP

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

The Office of the Governor, through its Capital Improvement Program Office, has extended the deadline for the request for proposal for the healthcare system analysis to be conducted on the Commonwealth Health Center.

The original submission date of June 1 has been moved to June 4. "All other elements of the RFP remain as originally provided," stated a paid advertisement that appeared in yesterday's *Saipan Tribune*.

RFP12-GOV-077, which was first published last month, seeks to solicit services from qualified firms to provide a review of the current healthcare system of the CNMI in comparison to "identified" standards and developing a plan to correct any uncovered deficiencies.

Press secretary Angel Demapan and governor's legal counsel James Stump separately confirmed the deadline extension yesterday.

"The sole purpose of the extension for [the] date of submission is to accommodate the austerity Friday," Stump said via email. "This will not have any effect whatsoever on the process."

Stump refused to comment further on the submissions, saying that it would be "inappropriate" to do so since the procurement process is still ongoing.

With the deadline extension, Demapan said the Division of Procurement & Supply can receive sealed and marked copies of the proposals until 4:30pm on June 4.

Critical element to be addressed in the analysis is "the balancing of services and associated revenues." The firm with the proposal "most advantageous" to the CNMI government will be awarded the contract.

Demapan said the composition of the committee that will review submitted proposals "is being finalized."

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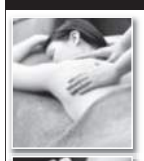
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Some 100 Japan company presidents on Saipan

Close to 100 presidents of Japan's private companies that have more than $100 million in annual sales will start arriving today for the annual Entrepreneurs' Organization Sports Festival that is expected to help boost the CNMI economy at least for the weekend.

Entrepreneurs' Organization, or EO, was founded in 1987 by Dell Inc. founder Michael Dell. EO Japan, the largest in the Asia-Pacific region, will be the one that's going to spend their weekend on Saipan.

Kojiro Tanaka, president of Japan-based advertising firm K's Inc., said as far as he knows, this is the first time that EO Japan will hold its annual sports festival outside Japan, and this will help invigorate Saipan's economy.

Tanaka, also president of Saipan-based AC USA Inc. that publishes *N@chan! Tourist* magazine and owns N@chan! Chi restaurant in Garapan, said once these company presidents get to learn and appreciate Saipan, they would be encouraged to also bring in their company to the island for company outings or retreats.

"The EO company presidents will be arriving Friday for the June 2 sports festival. The sports festival will be held whole day at the Fiesta Resort & Spa beach in Garapan. They will be staying on Saipan up to Monday," Tanaka told *Saipan Tribune.*

He said among the beach activities tomorrow are beach volleyball, relay games, and others that promote camaraderie, teamwork and fitness.

Tanaka said among those coming are EO Japan president Seiji Nakamura.

"Mr. Sunny Tan, Nippon Travel Agency and Fiesta Hotel have all helped to make this happen for EO Japan," he added.

The Entrepreneurs' Organization (EO) is a "dynamic, global network of more than 8,000 business owners in 40 countries. Founded in 1987 by a group of young entrepreneurs, EO is the catalyst that enables entrepreneurs to learn and grow from each other, leading to greater business success and an enriched personal life," EO Japan's website says

ONCE FUND'S BANKRUPTCY CASE IS JUNKED

'Only issue left is attorneys' fees'

All NMI Retirement Fund matters before the U.S. District Court for the NMI's Bankruptcy Division will be gone once the Fund's Chapter 11 bankruptcy case is dismissed, according to veteran attorney Michael Dotts yesterday.

In an interview, Dotts said the dismissal of the Chapter 11 petition will result in the dissolution of all the other issues that Judge Robert F. Faris is working on with regards to court-approved reduction and benefits.

The Fund issues will go back to where they were before, Dotts said.

"The only leftover for the bankruptcy court is to decide how much to pay all the attorneys who showed up in the bankruptcy proceedings," he said.

Dotts said all motions and complaints filed before the bankruptcy court will become moot or dismissed.

When the Fund filed the bankruptcy petition on April 17, something called an automatic stay stopped all actions that impact the Fund, he said. "Once the bankruptcy is dismissed, the automatic stay is also dismissed."

All those complaints filed in the bankruptcy court, Dotts said, may have to go to the Superior Court.

Faris is set to conduct a hearing today on the motions to dismiss the bankruptcy case and various other motions.

On Tuesday, Faris, however, issued a tentative ruling, saying he is inclined to dismiss the case on the ground that the Fund is a "governmental unit" and not eligible for relief under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

TSUNAMI

From Page 1

concerns from other entities, led the group of investors not to prioritize shipping tsunami debris to Pagan, he said.

"Right now the priority is mining pozzolan on Pagan. But after all the concerns from the Japanese government and others about transporting recyclable tsunami debris are addressed, then they will still consider bringing tsunami debris to Pagan," Imai told *Saipan Tribune.*

The group of Japanese investors, including Kansai Oil Co., New Energy Corp., Asia Mining Development PTE and Kanakyo Kaizen Kiko Co., earlier said that after a preliminary visit to Pagan, they are looking at leasing for 10 to 15 years roughly 2,000 hectares of public land on Pagan to mine what they consider "best quality" pozzolan and to recycle pretreated tsunami debris that they plan to bring in from Japan.

Pozzolan is a siliceous volcanic ash used to produce hydraulic cement. Pagan has tons of pozzolan as a result of volcanic eruption in 1981.

Rep. Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan), who has been advocating the Japanese investor group's business proposal, insisted that the shipment of recyclable tsunami debris from Japan to Pagan will help reduce the exorbitant cost of shipping mined pozzolan from Pagan to Japan.

He said the costly shipping cost has been the main culprit behind unsuccessful plans by investors to mine Pagan of pozzolan.

Tenorio, a former governor and speaker, said the current freight charge for shipping pozzolan is estimated at $50 to $60 per metric ton.

"But if tsunami debris is brought from Japan to Pagan, the amount that the investors gets out of that could help cut by half that shipping cost," he said in an interview after a House session yesterday afternoon.

The Japanese investors would not only get paid by the Japanese government for disposing of the debris, but also profit from the sale of the pozzolan in Japan which, according to Tenorio, has a demand for pozzolan these days. The debris is from the tsunami that struck Japan in March 2011.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said the Fitial administration has learned that the Japanese investor groups' focus "is now shifted toward pozzolan mining on Pagan."

He reiterated that the administration has not received official communication, including any business plan or formal proposal, from the investors.

"Like any proposal or plans that may come about for Pagan and any of the Northern Islands, the administration will always take into consideration environmental impacts. We will always do due diligence and whatever assessment needs to be done before we move forward any further," he said.

He said the administration wants an assessment of the quality of pozzolan on Pagan and the volume of pozzolan available.

"There could be 1 million, there could be a hundred [million metric tons]," he said, adding that whoever gets a contract will have to conduct these assessments which he said the government cannot fund on its own because of its cash-strapped condition.

Another consideration is the planned resettlement of Pagan.

But Tenorio said the CNMI government should not build homesteads on Pagan because it remains unsafe for permanent dwelling.

Demapan also pointed to an ongoing court case involving a holder of a mining permit and the CNMI government.

"Those are the things you need to get over before we can reach any concrete plan to proceed forward with any investment involving pozzolan," he added.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) separately said yesterday that he has been opposed to such a plan to bring tsunami debris to Pagan.

"I am concerned about the protection of the environment and maintaining the beauty and cleanliness of our islands and the ocean surrounding us. So a proposal to dump another country's waste products on Pagan or on any of our islands is not something that I can support," he said.

Some residents are expressing opposition to what they describe as the "desecration" of Pagan by turning it into a dumping ground.

HOUSE

From Page 1

Rep. Janet Maratita (Ind-Saipan) is off-island. Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan) had an appointment that he said he could not reschedule.

Hours before the House session, acting governor Eloy S. Inos said it's the House's prerogative to override the veto but he is hoping it won't happen "simply because we believe we have a better plan."

"I say better because HB 17-226 will give [active members] only 50 percent. Our plan is to give them 100 percent," Inos said, if and when the buyback into the U.S. Social Security does not push through.

The Fitial administration had urged the House to recall HB 17-226 and work on a modified version that will not impede its plan to get into the U.S. Social Security system, which would require an estimated $60 million in employer-employee contribution for a five-year buyback.

Inos said retirees, meanwhile, will continue to be in the retirement system.

"That's our plan. We are going to make whole of those folks who are in the retirement system already and are now receiving pension. They're not going to be affected by the buyback… because they can be contributing to two pension systems," Inos told reporters in an interview after signing three proclamations and swearing in three members of the Public Utilities Commission.

Inos said the administration plans to declare a state of emergency for the Retirement Fund, but is waiting for a final decision from a federal court judge to dismiss the Fund's Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing.

The administration plans to place the Fund under the Department of Finance, which will continue to disburse retirement pension to retirees.

Rally

Yesterday's session was marked by numerous applause and cheers from the crowd every time a House member says the veto of House Bill 17-226 should be overridden so that non-retired members will have access to at least half of their own money before the Fund totally collapses.

Other active members of the Fund were also holding small placards that read, "Please help us. Override veto. Thank you."

When the House clerk reported that the override got a vote of 11 "yes" and six "no," the crowd cheered, thinking that the override was successful but this jubilation was cut short when the speaker said it was defeated because it failed to get two-thirds or at least 14 "yes" votes.

One by one, active Fund members left the Chamber expressing disappointment with the outcome of the voting.

"I am very disappointed," said Joe M. Pangelinan, who has been one of the leaders of non-retired Fund members who have been pushing for the passage of Cabrera's HB 17-226.

Pangelinan, in his testimony yesterday before House members, said allowing the Fund's defined benefit program members to withdraw up to 50 percent of their contributions without being penalized and without losing their jobs is the "best option based on the ongoing circumstances."

"The unfunded liabilities, unpaid employer's contributions and the extravagant pensions paid to retirees are just too overwhelming for the pension program to sustain. …As active contributing DB members, we are very uncertain of our future and as such, we cannot continue to invest our money and rely on a pension plan that is very uncertain and likely to fail," he said.

Pangelinan added that they believe it is just a matter of time before the CNMI pension program runs out of funds.

"We feel that the actions being taken now are just too little to late. Therefore, it is only right that we have the option to withdraw before the NMI Retirement Fund goes bankrupt," he said.

'Unfair, unjustified'

Pangelinan said once HB 17-226 becomes law and the federal government allows the CNMI government to join the U.S. Social Security program, then the 50 percent that active member rolled over into the defined contribution plan "should be sufficient to cover the buyback requirement that will be imposed by the U.S. Social Security."

He said to use buyback as the argument for vetoing HB 17-226 and holding 100 percent of active members' contributions is "truly unfair and unjustified."

Lupe Borja Robinson, an employee at Northern Marianas College, told House members that once HB 17-226 is overridden and becomes law, the Fund "can focus only on providing benefits to current retirees."

Active Fund members Manny Pangelinan, Paul Joyce, Lt. Pius Yaroitemal, and Phyllis Ain also addressed House members, all urging them to override the governor's veto.

"We're at a point where we lost faith in the Fund," Joyce said.

Taking turns

House members who were poised to vote "no" to the override action, along with those who supported the veto, took turns explaining their side.

Rep. Frank Dela Cruz said there is nothing in HB 17-226 that references a Social Security buyback of five years.

He said the bill should be amended to roll over the other 50 percent of the contributions to Social Security and not to the DC plan.

The House minority leader, Rep. Joe Deleon Guerrero, echoed this. He added that if HB 17-226 becomes law as it is currently written, elected leaders basically fail the retirees. He said the bill should be worked on to help both retirees and active members.

While Rep. Tony Sablan had his turn to speak and the crowd started talking among themselves, the House minority leader said, "You don't have to agree with what we say but at least listen to what we have to say." At this point, the crowd kept quiet.

Rep. Joe Palacios said there's no guarantee that a bill allowing the CNMI a buyback into the Social Security could even be introduced in Congress this election year.

Tenorio said the House should not wait for a draft bill before acting on HB 17-226. He added that the U.S. Social Security itself is predicted to run out of money in 2022, but the speaker clarified that it will be in 2033.

Rep. Stanley Torres asked whether they could hold off action on the veto of HB 17-266 for at least five days, so that other members could also be present, but Cabrera said he wanted action yesterday.

Rep. Trenton Conner said lawmakers were elected to make tough decisions, and asked the members to stop their political posturing.

"Past decisions led us [to this situation]. Don't play political ping-pong with people's lives," he added.

Rep. Ralph Demapan, for his part, asked Cabrera that if he really cared, why didn't he recall his bill to help everyone, and not only the people in the House gallery.

Rep. Ray Tebuteb said the Republican governor's communication to the Republican House leadership was very clear.

Cabrera said the House leadership is still working with the Fitial administration, and took note of Tebuteb's use of the word "Republican." He said he's not playing politics.

The floor leader, for his part, said he initially said he will vote "no" to an override and this was shortly after hearing the administration's plan, but after further consideration, he decided to support an override.

Under the vetoed bill, active members of the Fund would be allowed to take back up to 50 percent of their employee contributions regardless of years of service and without penalty or the need for them to quit their job. The rest of their employee contributions will be rolled over to the Fund's defined contribution plan.

June declared as NMI-Philippines Friendship Month

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

Acting governor Eloy S. Inos hopes that the relationship between the CNMI and the Philippines will continue to flourish even with the imminent shutdown of the Philippine Consulate General on Saipan, as he signed yesterday the proclamation declaring June as Northern Mariana Islands – Philippines Friendship Month.

Inos, who looked debonair in a crisp *barong Tagalog*, described the two jurisdictions' relationship as "never-ending" as both share centuries worth of common Spanish heritage, customs, traditions, and values that have brought its peoples together.

Yesterday's proclamation signing was also witnessed by other Consulate personnel and Filipino community leaders who were all equally dashing in traditional Philippine wear. The proclamation was read by Consulate staff Liza Dean.

Inos acknowledged the Filipinos in the CNMI for all their contributions to the local economy.

Inos

"We want to thank you on behalf of the governor and the people of the Commonwealth for all that you've done and for the continued friendship that you've allowed us to have during the many years that we've been together," Inos told his audience.

Despite the misgivings and challenges presented by major policy changes that affected the Filipino community such as the federalization of immigration, "I hope that we can continue to be good friends and be able to help one another," he added.

Inos said that yesterday's activity stirred up mixed emotions for two reasons: the closure of the Consulate and the absence of its last serving Consul General, Medardo Macaraig, who is currently in Manila to attend to his wife.

Teresita Roselyn Macaraig was transported to Manila last month following a massive stroke. She remains in critical condition at the St. Luke's Medical Center Global City.

Inos, who requested the crowd to take a few moments of silence to pray for the Consul General's wife, said he can relate to Macaraig's situation as he himself had to endure the pain of an ill wife. Dolores Agulto Inos had a long battle with an illness before she succumbed in August 2011 at the age of 63.

In a statement read by Jose Sto. Domingo, Consulate officer in charge, Macaraig said the shared ties between the CNMI and the Philippines through common Christian heritage, pursuit of democratic ideals, and economic partnership will not put the islands and the Philippines' friendship to end after Oct. 31.

"The Consulate may be gone and economic opportunities sparse but the resilience of our peoples shall ensure that prosperity shall return, new relationships shall be formed, and our friendship shall always remain," said Macaraig.

Sto. Domingo invited Inos to join the Consulate and the Filipino community on June 10 to commemorate the 114th anniversary of the proclamation of Philippine Independence, which will serve as the Consulate's penultimate flag raising event.

"I'd be more than happy to do that. I'll make sure my *barong* is in good shape by then," Inos quipped.

The proclamation signing was followed by the ceremonial cutting of the cake which was shared among the event's attendees.

Thornburgh gets 5-percent salary hike

The CNMI State Board of Education has unanimously approved a 5-percent salary adjustment for the Public School System's federal programs officer.

The board agreed at a special meeting yesterday that the increase will be added to Tim Thornburgh's base salary, which now stands at $65,000 per annum following the adjustment.

Acting on the recommendation made by Education Commissioner Rita Sablan, the board made its decision after the PSS Fiscal, Personnel, and Administrative Committee endorsed the salary hike.

This was among the several issues deliberated on by the FPA committee during its executive session held prior to the 11am special meeting.

Committee chair Tanya King said the salary adjustment is justified by the amount of responsibilities that the federal programs officer has, including his capacity as acting commissioner on various occasions.

According to King, the adjustment will make Thornburgh's salary commensurate to his responsibilities as well as aligned with other PSS directors

King noted that Thornburgh's salary increase will solely come from federal funds. ***(Clarissa V. David)***

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Judge inclined to impose substantial prison term on ex-detention guard

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona intimated yesterday that she is leaning toward imposing a substantial prison term on Tyron Farley Reyes Fitial, a former detention guard who has pleaded guilty to enticing a minor.

Manglona continued the sentencing to Tuesday at 9:30am to allow the parties to submit briefs and recommendations.

Manglona began the sentencing hearing on Wednesday and continued it yesterday, where she announced that her recalculation of the sentencing range is between 108 months to 135 months.

The judge stated that she is still thinking of making an upward departure of the sentencing guideline range.

The U.S. Probation had determined that the sentencing range is between 87 months to 108 months.

Manglona increased the sentencing level under the guidelines' vulnerable victim enhancement. The judge determined the vulnerability of the victim.

Manglona said the girl was susceptible to criminal conduct due to Fitial's actions.

The judge cited that Fitial was the detention guard in position of authority over the girl's brother at the time.

"Defendant used his position of authority when he took the phone of her [girl's] brother," Manglona said.

Manglona cited Fitial's other criminal actions as disclosed by FBI special agent Haejun Park in his testimony.

In this case, Manglona said she finds Fitial's act to be a form of sexual extortion.

With her findings, Manglona told the parties that she is willing to continue the sentencing to give them more time to submit briefs and recommendations.

Assistant U.S. attorney Clyde Lemons Jr. said he is ready to proceed with the sentencing. Defense attorney Michael Evangelista, counsel for Fitial, asked for extra time to look at the new grounds the judge has cited.

Fitial was accused of forcing three wards at the Juvenile Detention Unit to engage in sex acts. He pleaded guilty to enticing a minor, but not actual sexual penetration.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Autism Society meeting today

The Autism Society of the CNMI will be holding its monthly meeting, scheduled for today, June 1, at 5:30pm at the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc. conference room in Gualo Rai. All families and friends of individuals with autism and autism related spectrum disorders are invited to attend. Information regarding the group and future meetings will be available at this meeting. For more information, contact Frank Cabrera at 287-9552 or 888-5749 (frankdcabrera@hotmail.com). ***(PR)***

NMC School of Education Open House today

The Northern Marianas College School of Education is hosting an Open House for those who are considering teaching as a profession.

Participants of the Open House can learn about new scholarship opportunities like the TEACH Grant Program, the four different academic concentrations available at the School of Education, and other program features.

The free Open House will be held today, June 1, 2012, at NMC's Building J from 4pm to 6pm. Light refreshments will be served. For more information about the event, contact 234-5498 Ext. 2234. ***(PR)***

COP beach cleanup tomorrow

The Division of Environmental Quality's cleanup brigade will be picking up trash at Coral Ocean Point Beach on Saipan tomorrow, June 2, 2012, at 8am. If you would like to volunteer, meet the DEQ representatives on Saturday at the beach entrance parking lot. Volunteers will split into groups and clean until 10am and break for drinks and then continue, if needed. For more information about volunteering, contact the DEQ office at 664-8500/1. ***(DEQ)***

Air Force, Marine Corps, Navy training on FDM, Warning Area 517

The Air Force and Marine Corps will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on June 2-8 from 8am to 11:59pm. The Air Force, Marine Corps, and Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on June 2-8 from 8am to 11:59pm. The public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. ***(PR)***

Early dismissal at TES

Tanapag Elementary School will dismiss its students at 12pm from June 4 to 12. For more information contact the main office at 664-3425/26/27. ***(PR)***

Beautify Kagman High tomorrow

Kagman High School will be holding a Beautify Kagman High cleanup on Saturday, June 2 from 9 TO 12 at the KHS campus. This event is to help the school prepare for the graduation ceremony on Wednesday June 6, at 3:30pm. We are asking all of Kagman High School community members from Kagman 1 to As Matuis to come out and help beautify your school! Bring your bush cutter, water blaster, and rakes! We will provide the gas and water. ***(PR)***

Kagman High end of the school year schedule

Kagman High School will be dismissing students early from May 31 through June 11. KHS students will be dismissed at 1pm following lunch.

■ June 1: KHS students will be released at 1pm due to final exams.

■ June 5: Annual awards ceremony at 9am. On this day, the awards for the graduates will be announced, from the presidential awards to the scholarship recipients.

■ June 6: Dismissal for all students is at 1pm following lunch. Graduation ceremony starts at 3:30pm. All Kagman High School families are invited to witness the completion of this year's senior class. Parking is limited so get there early! Tents will be set up for shade; however, it is recommended to bring drinking water to stay hydrated during the ceremony.

■ June 7: Kagman High Sports Appreciation Day.

■ June 8: Report cards will be sent home with students.

■ June 11: Official last day of the school year.

Red Cross trainings set

The American Red Cross-NMI Chapter will be conducting the following Health & Safety training at its training room located on Airport Road:

■ First Aid: Wednesday, June 6, and Thursday, June 21, 6pm-9pm

■ Adult CPR/AED: Tues., June 5, and Wed., June 20, 6pm-9pm

■ Pediatric CPR/AED: Sat., June 16, 8am-11am

Pre-registration is required at least 24-hours prior to training date. A $70 course-fee is required to participate in these trainings. Two-year certification cards are issued at end of training. Register by calling 1-800-REDCROSS or visiting www.redcross.org/training. For more information, contact the local chapter at 234-3459. ***(PR)***

Lt. Gov. Inos on *Marianas Agupa*

This Saturday, June 2, 2012, *Marianas Agupa* will feature Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos who will talk about the Retirement Fund's active employees to move into the U.S. Social Security pension program and his proposal for a hybrid bill similar to the H.B. 17-226 that was vetoed by Gov. Benigno Fitial. The show is from 9am to 11am on Magic 100.3 FM. Listeners are encouraged to call in and ask questions during the show (direct to studio at 234-5929 or use instant messaging on the Facebook account of Marianas Agupa). The Chamorro radio talk show program is hosted by Glenn H. Manglona. Simultaneous Internet streaming via www.magic100radio.com will be available. ***(PR)***

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Commonwealth Cancer Association
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The Commonwealth Cancer Association, in collaboration with the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation, the Comprehensive Cancer Control Program, and other social and human service providers will honor our citizens who are living with and beyond cancer. June 1 to June 8 will be observed as the 2012 Commonwealth/National Cancer Survivors Week-Day and will host events throughout the week. We urge all cancer survivors to join in this joyous celebration of life.
The theme for this week's celebration is:

"Rainbow of Hope"

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Wednesday, May 30	7:00 p.m.	John Gonzales Talk Show
Thursday, May 31	7:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	KKMP Interview, Red Room Proclamation Signing, Governor's Conference Room
Friday, June 1	6:00 p.m.	Healing Mass, Kristo Rai Church
Saturday, June 2	4:00 p.m.	Healthy Walk, Garapan Fishing Base to Triple J and back
Sunday, June 3	7:00 a.m.	National Cancer Survivors Day Island Wide-Ribbon Tying (Rainbow Colors)
Monday, June 4		Educational Field Trip to Hospital
Wednesday, June 6	7:00 p.m.	John Gonzales Talk Show
Friday, June 8	5:30 p.m.	Cancer Survivors Support Group Gala, Raraina Room, Aqua Resort Club, Saipan

This week provides an opportunity for all of our people living with a history of cancer to connect with each other, celebrate milestones, and recognize the healthcare providers, family, and friends who have supported them along the way.

We encourage all cancer survivors to wear 2012 Survivors shirts to all events.
For more information, please contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or send email to cca@ccamarianas.org

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We will eventually rise up and literally be reborn, to once again be able to do our best in serving you all with great support and with the most reliable items!

Once again, we are giving you the most heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for your cheer and support as we promise to do our best in giving back to the community.

Thank you very much!

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PSS adopts a healthier lunch menu

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Students of the Public School System will see new and healthier lunch meals next school year following the Board of Education's adoption of the school year 2012-2013 lunch menu yesterday.

The board unanimously approved the revised menu, which was endorsed by the PSS Fiscal, Personnel, and Administrative Committee, during yesterday's special meeting.

"The menu [will] make meals healthier and have more fiber and local vegetables," said committee chair Tanya King.

The menu is based on the nutritional requirements of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which has implemented guidelines on "nutrition-balanced, culturally acceptable meals."

The federal agency funds the school meals program of PSS.

USDA-funded school lunches are required this year to consist of a full three-fourths to one cup of vegetables at each meal. Next school year, the menu will be required to have more whole grains.

Board member Herman T. Guerrero emphasized the need to have menu items that not just meet federal standards but are also "culturally attuned." This includes using locally grown vegetables and fruits. "They can use their imagination and still make healthy menus," added Guerrero.

Dale Roberts, PSS food and nutrition program manager, noted, however, that some of the health issues in the Commonwealth stem from menu items that are culturally accepted. "We're trying to steer away from this and to a healthy menu. USDA is basically forcing us to a more healthy diet," he said

Roberts disclosed that USDA requirements state that PSS' school meals program should have 51-percent whole grain offerings for lunch by 2012-2013. The following school year, the 51-percent rule for whole grains will apply to both breakfast and lunch.

By 2014, PSS will no longer be allowed to offer white rice to students. "So we are on a three-year timeline in trying to adjust everybody's diet."

Roberts disclosed that of the 16 entrees in this year's menu, 10 items reflect a "slight change." He said the changes have to do with the increase in vegetable requirements, and the meal vendors are given the option to substitute locally available vegetables and fruits to imported ones.

He said the new menu also reflects the results of the surveys they did among students on all three islands.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Jun. 1, 1999

Mandatory health insurance pushed

Accusing employers of not providing health benefits to their workers, Sen. Juan P. Tenorio said his proposal seeking mandatory insurance coverage is intended to correct loopholes in the existing law, while extending company-sponsored medical care to resident employees. He vowed to push passage of the bill which is expected to be presented in a public hearing by the Senate Committee on Health, Education and Welfare to seek comments from the people and the private sector. Called the Commonwealth Mandatory Health Care Act of 1999, Tenorio's proposal comes amid debate on the Resident Workers Fair Compensation Act, which implementation has hit a snag following disagreement on the implementing guidelines.

Teno: CNMI is ready for oversight hearing

Young, who chairs the House Committee on Resources, is planning to hold the oversight hearing later this year amid renewed pressure from the White House and interest groups to apply federal immigration, customs and minimum wage laws in the Northern Marianas. "We will present our views and ask the US Congress and the federal government to please consider...the adverse impact of the legislation to the CNMI," the governor said. According to Tenorio, the economic slowdown bolsters the need not to put these Commonwealth functions under federal control. "With the Asian economic downfall, we need financial help from the federal government for education, public safety and health."

Jun. 1, 2000

Increase in PSS budget means extra $20 million

The proposed 10 percent increase in the Public School System's yearly budget appropriation could mean an extra $20 million for public education in the Northern Marianas. Given the projected $211 million CNMI revenues in Fiscal Year 2001, PSS would be entitled to $42.2 million for overall operations, according to a PSS budget history report. The figure is a far cry from 15 percent guaranteed appropriation as mandated by the constitution, or some $31.6 million. Projected student enrollment for FY 2001 is targeted to reach 10,000 combining all 16 public schools on Saipan, Rota, and Tinian.

House stops Judiciary from tapping trust funds

Under time pressure to pass the proposal, the House of Representatives yesterday approved an amendment to Public Law 11-105 to prohibit the Superior Court to make money out of trust funds temporarily entrusted to the Judiciary. HB 12-200, sponsored by Speaker Benigno R. Fitial, now heads to the Senate for action. The Legislature has until this Sunday to enact the legislation under the 10-day period granted by the U.S. District Court before it can rule the law unconstitutional. Judge Alex R. Munson decided in favor of the plaintiff, James E. Hollman, in the lawsuit he filed against the CNMI government, challenging the constitutionality of PL 11-105 that was signed by the governor in October last year.

Jun. 1, 2001

MVA hopes to tap 4 new markets

The Marianas Visitors Authority is looking at opening four new markets in Japan to perk up visitor arrivals into the CNMI, after years of contraction. MVA Chair David M. Sablan wants to revisit travel markets in Fukuoka, Osaka, Sendai and Sapporo, seen to generate additional 4,000 visitors each month for the Northern Marianas. Sablan is upbeat the CNMI can replicate the success of the recent re-opening of the Nagoya market, which MVA believed contributed to the 3 percent increase in Japanese arrivals to the islands in April.

Compromise deal on 3-year limit law seen

The House of Representatives is hoping to strike a compromise agreement with the Senate on the three-year stay limit issue, as it opened the possibility of softening earlier clamor for a complete repeal. The lower house dropped strong hints it may agree on the proposed creation of a special task force that will handle a comprehensive evaluation and study on the impending exodus of the Commonwealth's nonresident workers. The Legislature's Bicameral Committee is negotiating the terms of a possible compromise deal to resolve concerns on whether to repeal the three-year limit law in its entirety or just cook up safety nets to save the local business community.

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Nongshin Bowl Noodle **$7.99** CASE LIMIT

Ichiban **$10.49** CASE

Chicken Leg Quarter **$19.99** 22lbs
$26.99 33lbs LIMIT

Whole Chicken 30lbs **$37.99** LIMIT

Pork Spareribs 20lbs **$22.99** LIMIT

Babyribs 10lbs **$22.99** LIMIT

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Hormel Chili with Beans **$1.69** 15 OZ.	Hormel Chili No Beans **$1.79** 15 OZ.	Kikkoman Soy Sauce **$3.99** 1.6 L.	Morton Salt **85¢** 450 gm	Vlasic Sliced Dill Pickle **$6.49** 1 GAL.	Dinty Moore Beef Stew **$1.69** 15 OZ.	Dinty Moore Meatball Stew **$1.69** 15 OZ.	Hormel Mary Kitchen Corned Beef Hash **$1.99** 6.5 OZ.
Campbells Chicken Noodle **89¢** 10 OZ.	Del Monte Spaghetti Sauce (all kinds) **$1.39** 26.5oz.	Del Monte Whole Corn **99¢** 15 OZ.	Kellogg's Tri-pak 58 oz. **$13.99**	General MIlls Tri-pak **$8.99**	Argo Corn Starch **99¢** 1 LB.	Gold Medal Flour **$3.25** 37.02 OZ.	Duncan Hines Cake Mix **$1.99**
Country Lime Lemonade **$7.99**	Tang Orange **$7.99** 22 QTS.	Kool-Aid **$7.99** 34 QTS.	Coffee Mate **$7.99** 50 OZ.	Folgers Coffee **$11.99** 33.3 OZ.	Maxwell Coffee Mix **$7.99** 100CT.	Fresco Vegetable Oil **$9.49** 1 GAL.	Dragon Vegetable Oil **$9.49** 1 GAL.
DelMonte Ketchup **$4.69** 2 64 OZ.	Royal Spaghetti Noodle **$2.49** 1 kg.	Foremost Milk **$20.99**	White Sugar 2kg **$2.79** 2 KG.	Kruataia Coconut Milk **99¢**	Golden State Vinegar **$3.99** 2 1 GAL.	Wilkins Water **$2.99** 6000ML	Pringles (All Kinds) **$1.99**

FAMILY BAG

Stew Chicken	$5.99	Pork Spareribs	$6.99
Chicken Leg Qtr	$4.99	Beef Ribeye	$15.99
Chicken Nuggets	$11.99	Beef Stew	$12.99
Mackerel Fish	$5.99	Beef Shank	$11.99
Pork Hock	$6.99	Beef Feet	$7.99
Pork Adobo	$9.99	Beef Shortribs	$15.99
Pork Bellies	$11.99	Ox Tail	$15.99
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Rota Water 500 ml. **$5.50** CASE	Ruby Kist Orange Juice **$3.79** 64oz.	Ruby Kist Apple Juice **$3.99** 64oz.
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PRODUCE

Onion **59¢** LB.	Potato **79¢** LB.	Cabbage **89¢** LB.	Korean Pear **$2.99** LB.	Broccoli **$1.49** LB.	Celo Apple **$3.99** /BAG	Orange **99¢** LB.	Honeydew/ Cantaloupe **99¢** LB.	Garlic **$1.25** 5 PCS.	U.S. X-Large Eggs **$2.25** 1 DOZ.

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NON-FOOD

Purex **$4.49** 50 OZ.	Gain Liquid **$6.49** 50 OZ. **$10.99** 100 OZ.	Gain Powder 120 loads **$16.99** 50 OZ.	Joy Ultra **$1.49** 12.5 OZ. **$6.99** 90 OZ.	Huggies Big **$18.99** BOX	Luvs Big **$17.99** BOX	Bounty Paper Towel **$19.99** 15 Rolls
Dawn Dishwashing Soap **$8.99** 90 oz.	Suave Shampoo & Conditioner 2 for **$3.00**	Head & Shoulders Shampoo **$7.99** 23OZ.	Charmin Ultra Strong Tissue **$6.99** 24 Rolls	Charmin Basic Toilet paper **$14.99** 24ROLLS **$8.29** 12ROLLS	Foam Plates **$3.29** 50 CT **$7.99** 125 CT	

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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Canada, the forgotten ally

By DOUGLAS MACKINNON
THE BALTIMORE SUN

During one of his stand-up routines, comedian and late-night host Jon Stewart told a joke that encapsulated the often misunderstood relationship between the United States and Canada.

Said Mr. Stewart, "A Canadian came up to me and asked, 'What do Americans really think about Canada?' And I was like, 'We don't.'"

Bingo. Joke, truth, and a growing problem, all spelled out in two words.

In many ways, there is no country on Earth more important to the current and future welfare of the United States than Canada—and yet, many Americans and U.S. politicians barely give our neighbor to the north any thought at all.

They should.

Full disclosure: I consider Canada my second home country. My ancestors went from Scotland to Nova Scotia, with my grandfather and others eventually making their way down to Boston. To this day, I may have more relatives in Canada than the United States, and I am quite proud of them and their country.

Speaking of my family to the north, I remember that when my cousins would visit me in Boston, they could not only name every state in the United States but every capital of every state. Embarrassingly, over the years since, when I have asked friends and colleagues (including high-level government officials) if they could just name all the provinces in Canada (knowing the capitals and territories was way too much to ask), the most any could do was name four to eight of the 10 provinces.

I am willing to bet that if you gave our members of Congress the same pop quiz, the vast majority would fail.

Should we care?

Yeah. Nobody likes being taken for granted. Especially your best and most trusted ally in the world.

As President Barack Obama and Mitt Romney prepare to duke it out for the presidency, foreign policy will become a growing and much more contentious subject.

Either or both, for altruistic or selfish political reasons, can score some easy points—and maybe win some votes in the process from the millions of Americans with Canadian ancestry—if they simply remember to insert Canada into the foreign policy debate.

Why should they? Well, for starters, according to our State Department, the United States and Canada share the world's largest and most comprehensive trading relationship. Canada is the leading export market for 36 of the 50 U.S. states and is a larger market for U.S. goods than all 27 countries of the European Union. The equivalent of about $1.4 billion in goods and more than 400,000 people cross the border between our two nations—per day.

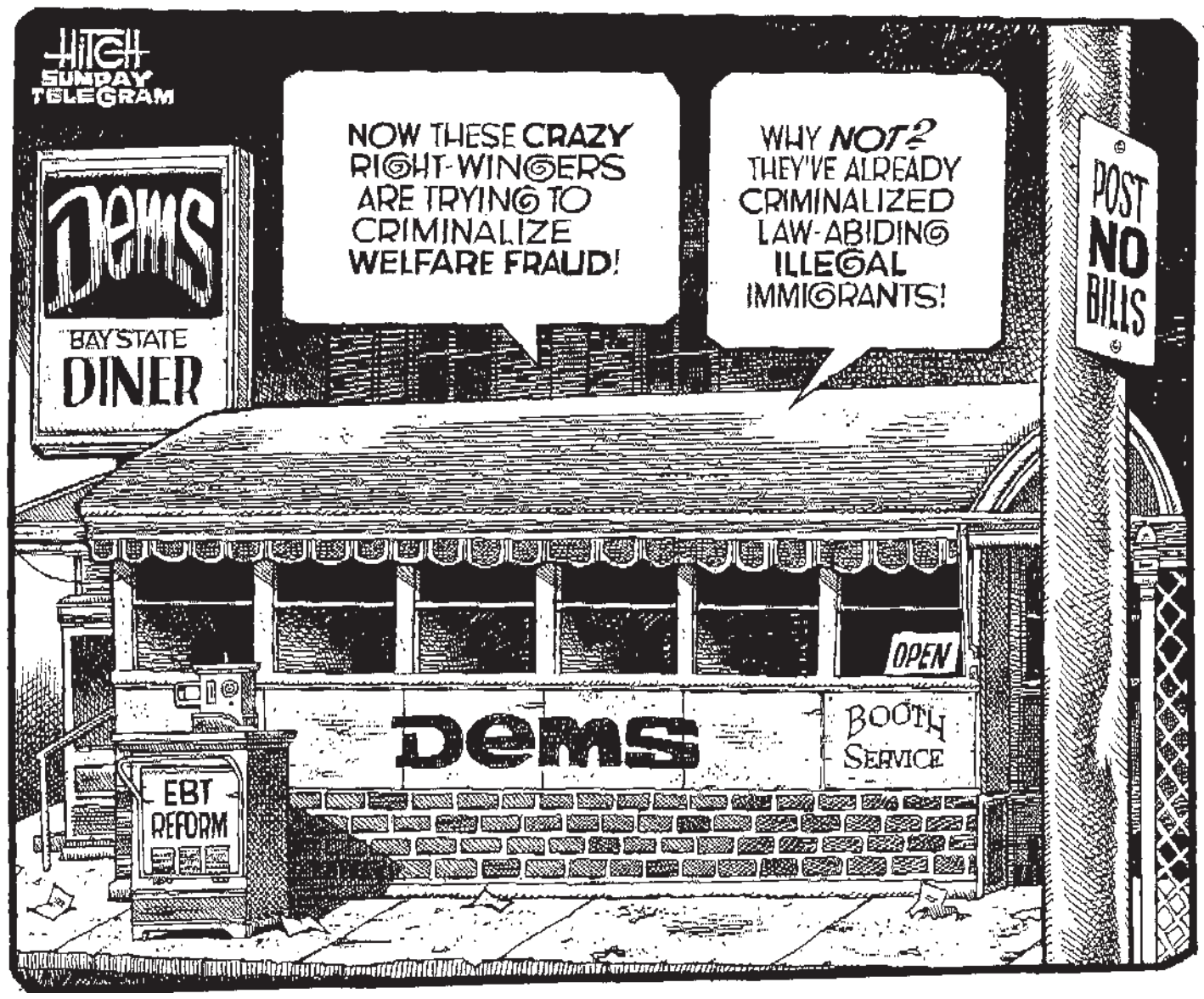
Energy (and lack thereof) is on everyone's mind of late. OK, how about this: Canada is the single largest foreign supplier of energy to the United States. It provides more than 20 percent of all U.S. oil imports and 18 percent of U.S. natural gas imports, and it is the world's second-largest holder of petroleum reserves after Saudi Arabia.

Sounds like an amazingly important friend to me. If I were the government of the United States, I'd have FTD on speed-dial and be sending Canada fresh flowers and compliments every day.

Want to talk about investment? The United States is Canada's largest foreign investor, and they are the fifth largest in our nation.

Finally, let's focus for a moment on current events and national security. Canada and the United States share the largest land

See CANADA on Next Page



Space tourism

If you follow the tourism industry, here's a new frontier to consider: space. Projects are already in the works to provide rides in the sub-orbital realm, and, eventually, to sell stays in orbiting space stations. We're talking about an entirely new industry here, at least eventually, and not a mere piggyback on the existing space action.

Today's space race is, indeed, largely a commercial one. Your grandparents owned stock in railroads. Your kids are going to own stock in space companies.

One of the pioneering companies, Space Exploration Technologies, also known as SpaceX, hit a milestone last month when it launched a payload of cargo that docked with the international space station. That mission was a real nail-biter, since the first launch attempt on May 19 was aborted less than a second before lift-off because of a mechanical issue. But on the second time around, May 22, things worked as hoped and history was made. It's being billed as the first private launch of cargo to the space station, which is true enough, though NASA funding (such as advance fees for launches with NASA as the customer) and assistance has played a big role in SpaceX's development.

SpaceX is a name you'll probably be hearing a lot, so some basic facts run like so: The founder, Elon Musk, was the guy behind PayPal. SpaceX, founded in 2002, is headquartered in Hawthorne, Calif., which is in the shadow of Los Angeles, a region with a lot of aerospace expertise. And talk about a fast-mover, Musk is only 40 years old now, so he was a true youngster when he founded SpaceX, not to mention PayPal before that.

I've heard that one SpaceX vision is to eventually put humans on Mars, and in order to get to that point they're first building a solid foundation of commercially-viable space services closer to Earth.

And in that regard, they seem to be on the right track. Via the SpaceX website I count several dozen scheduled missions for a global array of clients, including some in Taiwan, Israel, Argentina, and Thailand.

They've also done some launches from Kwajalein Atoll, which puts Micronesia on the space map. Well, sort of. Hey, we'll take what we can get.

The company was in the news again yesterday, announcing plans to build and launch what is billed as the world's most powerful rocket, and, among other uses, it will haul big satellites into orbit.

SpaceX is just one of several firms interested in the space transportation game. Another one, Sierra Nevada Corp., is readying a craft that looks like a miniature space shuttle, and it is designed to haul seven people and cargo to the international space station. Industry heavy-hitter Boeing also has something in the works. Virgin Galactic and other players are also in the mix. Maybe we'll look at them some other time.

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com.
His column runs every Friday.

As for the orbiting stations, a Nevada company, Bigelow Aerospace, already has at least two such "habitats" in orbit. Logically enough, the company's founder, Robert Bigelow, is a hotel magnate, so he's taking his hospitality expertise to new heights.

Bigelow Aerospace recently announced a joint effort with (guess who?) SpaceX (right!) to market travel in which SpaceX provides the transportation to Bigelow's stations. I surmise that this early in the game, when costs are still high and the industry is still young, this action will be for scientific crews and such, perhaps for nations that can't afford their own dedicated space assets.

Still, if it all works out, it's easy to imagine things scaling broad enough and cheap enough to make tourism a genuine play eventually. The Russians have hauled a few super-duper rich guys up for multi-million dollar fees, but that was apparently more an adjunct to existing operations than the formation of a market where supply grows enough to drive prices down and volumes up.

I know that Americans are enthralled with space travel. But I have no idea how the concept crosses cultural lines. Most of my tourism experience is in Asia, not the U.S. Surely, somebody is already doing studies to asses the demand in various markets for, say, a weekend in orbit. How many people like the idea? How many don't? Of those who like it, how much would they be willing to pay? And of those who can afford it, how many of them are young, old, single, married, rich, middle-income, adventurous, risk-averse, and so on? Who in their household would make the buying decision for this? What newspapers do they read, what TV shows do they watch, what radio stations do they listen to? These are pretty much the same questions you'd ask if you were selling cars or toothpaste or, well, anything else.

Hey, I've got a head start on this, since I already know what newspaper you read. So tell me what you think: If you could book a weekend in space, would you do it?

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

The grasshopper and the ant

By JOHN DELROSARIO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

We've had our version of the Aesop fable The Grasshopper and the Ant, loaded with lessons for our time or any other. The story has it that the lazy grasshopper whiles away his summer days singing and hopping and having an all-around good time.

The hardworking ants work, march and struggle to carry food crumbs to their anthill, storing up for that stormy, rainy day. Indeed, the inevitable happened. Came the stormy rainy days and the industrious ants have something to munch on while the fun-loving grasshopper squeezes his empty and painful tummy. He begs for some food but is refused by the ants.

Let's do an initial review of the moral of this fable. Government, the grasshopper in this little morality tale, is constantly trying to get its citizens, the ants, to cough up more and more of what they've earned by the sweat of their brows so that it might pay for its own needs, according to Cal Thomas, co-author of the book, Common ground: How to Stop the Partisan War That is Destroying America.

The latest tax measure from the Legislature was the $15 tax against visitors. Most recently, there's the tax legislation designed to tax foreign investors for establishing their offices here. But the exogenous taxes, ethnically intended for outsiders, would exact the complete opposite in revenue generation.

It's bad enough the closure and exit of businesses, forced by the highly prohibitive cost of utilities. And you still want to sink the balance of private industries with more tax mirage? Whatever happened to common sense? I suppose the grasshoppers' wings are riddled with holes, thus the inability to employ intellectual acuity and clarity or at least some common sense.

Reality check, anybody?

Can the Legislature explain the wisdom behind indiscriminate tax increases in a woefully bad business or economic climate? The issue is very simple: As businesses close and the tax base contracts, there won't be that many to tax, is there? How could this simple common sense escape your nimble minds?

I suppose that the notion of the ants in this case being "foreign," therefore it's fine to tax them to death? Haven't they assimilated into the local community? Said Thomas: "Only if the tax-and-spend 'grasshoppers' start feeling the heat from the taxpaying 'ants' are they likely to reverse course. Some of that heat may soon be coming from people who are fed up enough to act. There are reports of wealthy individuals and some businesses from states with high taxes, including Maryland and certainly California, moving to states with a lower state tax, or no state tax at all." It's a timely lesson meriting quick review and emulation from among our airheads who have themselves become giant grasshoppers.

Said Thomas further: "The economic lesson is this: Human nature has demonstrated that if government can squeeze more money out of its citizens without having to cut wasteful spending, it will; and if citizens can get other people's money without having to earn it, they will become addicted to government and come to regard the sustenance as an entitlement.

Europe's fiscal crisis

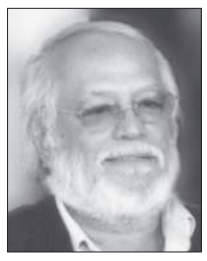
He noted that much of Europe is in crisis today "because it has become a victim of its own welfare state. Instead of industry, there is indolence. Economies are in trouble because government, not the individual, has become supreme. France just elected a socialist president, rejecting necessary austerity. The European gravy train has derailed."

Thomas concluded: "The moral lesson is this: When government takes money from people who earn it, government has a responsibility to spend it wisely and in ways that achieve the ends set down in our founding documents. Chief among these is that noble sentiment found in the Preamble to the Constitution about promoting "the general welfare."

"By 'spreading the wealth around,' rather than teaching and encouraging individuals to build wealth for themselves, government robs people of the joy produced by human initiative; indeed it takes from them one of the building blocks that makes us unique among living things: the dignity and reward of work." It's good for leadership to retreat if only to shore up lost common sense so prominently replaced by ignorance.

We can't afford being grasshoppers anymore. We must adopt the industry of ants to recapture and rebuild these isles. With persistent economic contraction, investment decelerations and growing distrust in government, the urgency for an organized plan requires serious attention, not myopic and reactive mindsets and approaches.

To expunge or not to expunge



By STANLEY T. MCGINNIS TORRES
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Stanley T. McGinnis Torres is a member of the House of Representatives of the 17th Legislature.

This issue has again been placed in a negative light by a certain individual who doesn't have all the facts before she makes hysterical accusations and statements that the bill, "The Restoration of Rights and Expungement of Criminal Records Act of 2010," will caused widespread civic damage to our island community.

She listed seven questions that need to be asked, and since she doesn't provide the answers, which are right in the bill itself or provided by the use of common sense, I will help her see the logic of providing a chance for those who deserve and must petition the CNMI court system for any chance to have their rights restored or records expunged.

The logic of the bill is simple. A survey of nearly all the U.S. states, including the state of Vermont, and U.S. possessions show that each governing entity provides some type of expungement and restoration of rights relief for court-determined and deserving citizens who have committed misdemeanors and, in certain cases, felonies. The impetus of the bill is simple. Several CNMI residents who have committed minor indiscretions should have the opportunity to have their records expunged. It is not an easy process, but everyone deserves a chance to have a bad mark removed from their record, especially if it affects their chances of securing employment, joining the military, etc. I am asking the critics of this bill to read the Bible and the part where it says, "Let he or she who has never committed any wrong cast the first stone." If the good Lord can be forgiving, why can't we human beings act in the same manner? Of course, they are those who do think they are walking saints and so much better than the rest of us.

No one has suggested that maintaining criminal records is a problem, and the vast majority of records will always be kept. Even if some misdemeanor records are expunged, the person still has to always live with the fact that he/she did commit a crime and that fact will always remain and does have to be reported when applying for certain positions.

There is no one in the past who will be whitewashed by this bill. To say something this ludicrous is to say that all the judges, attorneys general, and other law enforcement agencies are all in a conspiracy to whitewash "friends of the governor."

Expungement does not create an easy atmosphere for more crime. Does anyone in their right mind think that a person considers expungement, probation, parole, fines and imprisonment when they commit a crime? Crimes are committed out of passion, desperation, bad judgment, violent upbringings, etc. Expungement only creates a compassionate opportunity for some individuals to clean their slate for a fresh beginning. Research shows that if you don't allow a person a chance to better themselves and keep them legally shackled forever, they become desperate and commit more crimes to survive. It is sad that we live in a community that has some people who want "convicted people," no matter what their offense, to always live beneath their self-glorified feet.

The standards of living are not being lowered by the expungement bill. It is actually raising them in a civilized society. Finally, as law-abiding parents and teachers, etc., we do try our best to teach our children and students to do well and obey the rules. But show me one parent or teacher who has not granted a young person another chance to do better after breaking a rule. I am thankful that I was raised by law-abiding but compassionate parents and teachers, and I also have a big heart and sympathy for those who are being raised in a self-righteous and a biased better-than-thou environment.

Letter to the Editor

A simple problem

In the military they use a technique called spider webs to connect information and find out what is really going on in a complex situation. Let's see if it helps us with the very simple retirement problem.

The CNMI retirement is in trouble because many government entities are breaking the law and not paying the Retirement Fund as they are directed by law. Let's say you buy a new car and you put a thousand down and agree to pay $150 per payday. You then enjoy your new car for a while and then stop making payments. How long will you have that car? Not long. It would be repossessed, you'd lose your down payment, and you'd owe penalties and legal fees.

CNMI government entities have stopped making their car payments to the Retirement Fund. So why is the Retirement Fund problem so complex? Denial is the answer! Let's do the spider web thing. The law says government entities have to pay the Fund (just like your car payment). The Legislature, wanting to continue to spend money they don't have and not wanting to take responsibility for any cuts, underfunds agencies like the Public School System, Commonwealth Health Center, and Northern Marianas College. They allow agencies like the Commonwealth Government Credit Union to make loans from the Fund and allow a financing agreement with the Fund in February and March 1995 to finance the construction of a judicial complex (that's the new courthouse and this is important as you will see later).

Now these agencies, wanting to continue to spend money they don't have and not wanting to take responsibility for any cuts, find ways, legally and illegally, to continue their programs as before. Now that push comes to shove, no one wants to admit they have shortchanged the very core of our local workforce by not paying the Fund. You can see that every government agency that did not pay the Fund what they owed it will point fingers back up the chain of command and not help the Fund because it will cost them (the very reason they didn't pay in the first place). The Fund has already won lawsuits to this effect. But the Judiciary will not force the rest of the government to pay what they owe the Fund. Why? Because they are in the same situation as every one else, owing the Fund!

When you see the big picture, it is both understandable and easy to fix. No one wants to pay the Fund what they owe because it will require them to make cuts that won't be popular. The law is clear and has already been decided in court. If our government would simply follow the law (as you and I are expected to do or be thrown in jail) the Fund would have the funds to follow that same law and pay the retirees what they have earned. Remember, retirement is *not* a gift. It is earned. The retirees have already earned it. When is our government going to pay what is owed? Maybe when the Judiciary isn't in the spider's web?

Michael Murphy
Kagman, Saipan

CANADA

From Page 10

border in the world—an important factoid for a host of reasons. Not the least of which being the recent news that U.S. law enforcement and Homeland Security officials face an average of 55 encounters per day with "known or suspected terrorists" on U.S. watch lists. A number of those encounters take place on the U.S.-Canada border.

As the world and the world's economies spin more and more out of control, it would be wise for our leaders to more frequently remember and publicly acknowledge the strategic role Canada plays in our survival. We could not have a better ally, and yet we insult the country and its people on a regular basis with our ignorance and indifference.

For our own good, it's time to change the equation.

Douglas MacKinnon is a former White House and Pentagon official and author of the recently published books Rolling Pennies In The Dark and Vengeance Is Mine. Readers may send him email at douglas.mackinnon@snrdenton.com. He wrote this for the Baltimore Sun.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼78°	▲86 ° ▼78°	▲86° ▼78°	▲86° ▼78°	▲86° ▼78°

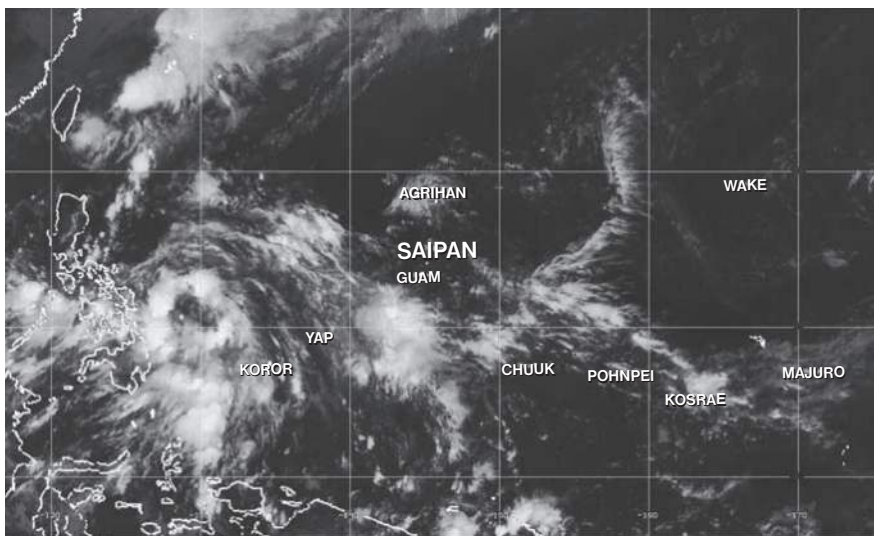
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼81
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼77
Yap	Showers	▲91	▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87	▼77
Kosrae	Showers	▲87	▼77
Majuro	Showers	▲87	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲61	▼47
Beijing	Showers	▲72	▼62
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲84	▼80
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼74
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲60	▼47
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲71	▼59
Manila	Thundershowers	▲90	▼82
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲62	▼43
Miami	Thundershowers	▲86	▼77
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲69	▼63
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲75	▼62
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲66	▼47
Pusan	Mostly Cloudy	▲72	▼62
Rome	Showers	▲73	▼61
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	▲75	▼54
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲67	▼55
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲81	▼59
Tokyo	Showers	▲72	▼63
Washington, DC	Showers	▲74	▼66

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, MAY 31, 2012
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends southeastward from the Philippines through low-level circulations centered northwest of Koror at 12N130E and southwest of Chuuk at 4N143E to end at EQ148E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring near the first circulation and monsoon trough across the Republic of Palau or west of a line from 14N134E to 7N136E to EQ136E. Similar weather is also found farther north between 16N and 21N from 130E to 135E. A surface trough reaches northeastward from the second circulation to end east of Saipan at 15N152E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are seen near the surface trough over Chuuk and Pohnpei between 2N and 15N from 148E to 159E and also north of the second circulation south of Guam between 6N and 12N from 141E to 148E. A trade-wind disturbance is causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over Namu and Majuro atolls and northeastward to the date line within 110 miles of a line from 6N164E to 7N173E to 10N180. An upper-level low is centered south of Iwo To island at 21N141E. Isolated thunderstorms are present near this feature within 70 miles of a line from 20N143E to 23N142E to 25N148E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

4:56 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
12:05 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet
6:39 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
11:56 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:46 AM	6:44 PM
Saturday	5:46 AM	6:44 PM
Sunday	5:46 AM	6:45 PM
Monday	5:46 AM	6:45 PM
Tuesday	5:46 AM	6:45 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	3:22 PM	2:26 AM
Saturday	4:24 PM	3:16 AM
Sunday	5:29 PM	4:11 AM
Monday	6:35 PM	5:10 AM
Tuesday	7:38 PM	6:13 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 6, 2012

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5062	2:40am	3:10am	1, 5

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)

UA5062	3:40am	4:15am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 5
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA5074	11:30pm	12:20pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:50pm	7:40pm	Daily
UA5072	9:55pm	10:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:50am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:15pm	Daily via NRT
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	Daily via GUM
UA5076/193	3:10pm	10:25pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA5072/PR111	10:05pm	7:50am+1	3, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50pm	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	4:35pm	9:45pm	1, 5 via GUM
OZ604/723	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5062	3:40am	5:40am	1, 5

SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5064	4:15am	4:50am	1, 5

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5062	2:40am	4:15am	1, 5 via ROP
UA5071	7:10am	8:00am	Daily
UA5073	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:25pm	6:15pm	Daily
UA5079	8:35pm	9:25pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
DL172/288	8:05am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:15pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5077	10:55am	9:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C05071	10:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA192/5071	9:45pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:25pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM
OZ704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA180/5076	10:35pm	8:00am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; CZ: China Southern; UA: United; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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Ex-convict in shooting case pleads guilty

An ex-convict who was indicted on a charge of possession of a firearm and ammunition has pleaded guilty in district court.

Justin A. Funkugub on Tuesday afternoon pleaded guilty to count 1 of the indictment charging him with felon in possession of a firearm.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona set Funkugub's sentencing for Sept. 5, 2012.

Attorney Ramon Quichocho is court-appointed counsel for Funkugub. Assistant attorney general Garth Backe appeared for the U.S. government.

Backe recently filed a motion to dismiss count 2 of the indictment charging the defendant with possession of a firearm with a removed, altered or obliterated serial number.

The indictment also charged Funkugub with one count of felon in possession of ammunition.

The U.S. government noted that Funkugub was convicted on Sept. 21, 2000, of cattle killing.

On Oct. 11, 2011, the defendant allegedly possessed a Smith and Wesson .38 caliber snub-nosed revolver. The gun's manufacturer's serial number had been removed, altered, or obliterated, a violation of U.S. Code, according to the indictment.

That same date, Funkugub also allegedly possessed six Winchester Super-X .22 caliber bullets.

The charges stemmed from an incident when the defendant allegedly assaulted a relative and fired a handgun in As Teo. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Sanders takes Washington state oath of attorney

On Friday, May 25, in the CNMI Supreme Court courtroom, Associate Justice John A. Manglona administered the State of Washington oath of attorney to Charlotte S. Sanders, a law clerk with the CNMI Supreme Court. Judiciary staff members were present at the ceremony.

Sanders graduated from the University of Washington School of Law in June 2011. In law school, she was the managing editor of production for the *Pacific Rim Law and Policy Journal*, a member of the Moot Court Honor Board, and a winner of the Judson A. Falkner Appellate Advocacy Competition. She obtained her B.A. in Political Science at the University of Washington with honors, was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and was president of the University of Washington's Speech and Debate Society.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pictured from left to right, acting chief justice Alexandro C. Castro, Charlotte S. Sanders, Esq., and Associate Justice John A. Manglona.

While on Saipan, Sanders has clerked for Justice Manglona who in his remarks following the administration of oath was most flattering of her contribution to the judiciary. Sanders intends to pursue civil litigation after her clerkship with the CNMI Supreme Court. ***(NMI Judiciary)***

Fee waivers for NMC Tinian Cash for College workshop participants

Individuals who participate in the Northern Marianas College's upcoming "Cash for College" workshop on Tinian will qualify to receive fee waivers for the NMC admissions application fee and placement test fees which is a savings of $75.

The free workshop will be held on Friday, June 8, 2012, at the NMC Tinian Instructional Site in Room D. The workshop will be an ongoing session, so participants can stop by any time between 9am and 1pm.

The aim of this workshop is to assist students and their parents in maximizing scholarship opportunities that are available to students seeking to obtain a college education.

Participants will also be provided with personal, step-by-step assistance in completing college financial aid forms, focusing especially on forms for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the Tinian Municipal Scholarship, the CNMI Scholarship, and more.

It is recommended that workshop participants bring a valid form of identification (e.g., a valid U.S. passport, copy of valid application for a U.S. passport, birth certificate, or green card), an official transcript from their high school, tax forms, and proof of CNMI residency for 2010 and 2011, including proof of continuing residency.

For additional information, call NMC at 433-0657/0649 or email mariaa@nmcnet.edu. ***(NMC)***

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Saipan lass shines in Hawaii

The month of May in Hawaii was filled with commencement exercises throughout the state. Thousands of students received their high school diploma. In particular, Roosevelt High School, which constitutes one attendance area in Oahu, graduated 345 seniors on May 19. Among the graduates was a Saipanese and former student of Garapan Elementary School in 2005-2006 academic year, Kaelah M. Pangelinan Santos.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kaelah M. Pangelinan Santos graduates with honors from the Roosevelt High School in Oahu, Hawaii last May 19.

Being the lone Saipanese in all of her classes at Roosevelt High School did not impede, inhibit, nor discourage Santos from pursuing her academic goals and all the hard work and sacrifices paid off during the commencement exercises when it was announced that she graduated with honors. Her academic accomplishment at Roosevelt High School means she was part of the academic elite for the Class of 2012.

Her proud parents, Antonio A. Santos and Zerlina A. Pangelinan, and other family members witnessed the graduation that evening and shared in her successes. ***(PR)***

NEWS BRIEFS

3 beach sites red-flagged

The Division of Environment Quality has red-flagged the Tanapag Meeting Hall, DPW Channel Bridge, and Garapan Fishing Dock and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified. DEQ said that samples collected from these locations had excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. Water samples were taken from 38 locations on Saipan this week. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(DEQ)***

Marine monument council sets inaugural meeting

The Mariana Monument Advisory Council is holding its inaugural meeting for the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument on June 5-6, from 8:30am to 4pm at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan. The public is invited to attend and observe the meeting. There will be opportunities for members of the public to provide comments to monument managers from 4pm to 5pm on both days.

Persons with disabilities needing reasonable accommodations to participate in the public meetings are invited to contact Angela Butsch at 1-888-812-5759 (voice) or 503-234-6263 (TTY) or angela_butsch@fws.gov. ***(PR)***

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BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Advanced happy birthday greetings go out to Kyna Margareth Sales, who will be celebrating her 7th birthday on Sunday, June 3! Here's wishing you all the best on your special day and may the good Lord bless you with more birthdays to come. Greetings come from your Nanay, Tatay, Yoyi, Celine, Tito Soc, and Tito Jayvee. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to Breanna Camacho who is celebrating her special day today! May you enjoy your day with all the wonderful things in life. We love you and God bless! Greetings coming from your family and friends. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

May this birthday be your best birthday ever, full of light and laugher, a fireworks explosion of joy. May this birthday live in your memory forever, creating happiness and satisfaction whenever you remember it. Happy, happy birthday to our Mommy, Lola, and Lelang, Marylou C. Villagomez! We love you! CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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Ocean Gem Seafood Mix 1 lb. $2.49

Cut Swimming Crab 1.5 lbs. $6.99

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NZ Greenshell Mussels Sanford 2 lbs. $5.99 (3 DAYS ONLY JUNE 1 - 3, 2012)

Chicken Leg Quarter Family Pack $5.99/PACK

Milk Fish $1.59/LB

Tilapia $1.29/LB

U.S. Extra Large Eggs Dozen $2.29 (3 DAYS ONLY JUNE 1 - 3, 2012)

Onion 79¢/LB

Garlic $2.99/LB.

Spam 12 oz. LIMIT 6 ALL FLAVORS $2.49

Black Label Luncheon Meat 12 oz. (Limit 6) $1.79

Libby's & Armour Vienna Sausage 5 oz. 69¢

Beach Cliff Sardines 3.75 oz. $1.09

Ox & Palm Corned Beef 11.5 oz. LIMIT 6 $2.99

Hormel Mary Kitchen Corned Beef Hash 15 oz. $1.99

Hormel Chili No Beans 15 oz. $1.99

DM Beef Stew 15 oz. $1.79

Coco Tuna 7oz. $1.29 Limit 6

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Sugar 2 kg. $3.29 Limit 2

Argo Corn Starch Limit 3 pcs. 99¢

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Folgers 12oz. Classic Decaf $9.99

Kikkoman 1.6 L. $4.49

Lemon Powder 5.29 oz. $4.99

Gold Medal Flour 5 lbs. Limit 2 pcs. $3.29

Maseca 4.4 Lbs. Limit 1pc. $4.99

Korean Butane Gas Limit 1 Case $23.99/CASE

Foam Cups 51 cnts. $2.49

Bounty Basic 8 ROLLS $8.99

Bounty White 8 Rolls $12.99

Foam Plates 125 ct. $7.99

Suave Shampoo and Conditioner (15 oz.) 2 Pcs. $3.00

Horse Shampoo 1 qrt. 2 FOR $3.00

Cottonelle 24 doubles rolls =48 $19.99

Charmin Ultra Strong 24 rolls $7.99

Luvs Big Pack (All Size) $20.99

Spoon & Fork No Brand Name 100 cnts. $1.50

Diamond Foil 200 Sq. Ft. $7.99

Bottled White Candle (China) 12 pcs/case $14.99/CASE

Korean Tissue 1 pk/ 10 rolls $3.99

Joy Ultra Lemon Diswashing 90 oz. $7.99

Enfamil Premium Lipil 16x8oz RTF $41.99 PER CASE

Kraft Cool Whip 16 OZ. $3.49

Philadelphia Cream Cheese 8 oz. $2.99

Maxwell House 34.5 oz. $9.99

Coffee Mate 50 oz. $7.99 (3 DAYS ONLY JUNE 1 - 3, 2012)

Morton Iodized Salt 26 oz. 89¢

Folgers Classic Decaf 33.9 oz. $11.99

Folgers 33.9 oz. $11.99

Korean Flour 2.5 kg. $3.99

Tang 22 qts. $7.99

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Lipton Ice Tea Mix 2.83kg. $7.99

MH Coffee Mix 100 sticks Limit 1 $8.99 (3 DAYS ONLY JUNE 1 - 3, 2012)

Maxim Mocha Gold Coffee Mix 100 count $10.99

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Country Time Lemonade 2.33 Kg. $8.99

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Shasta Cola (warm only) 12oz. $12.99/CASE

Ritz Drink All Flavor (warm only) $12.99

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PORK CHOP	$11.95	BEEF BACK RIBS	$7.95	SMOKED HAM STEAK	$12.95
PORK BELLY	$11.95	BEEF OXTAIL	$16.95	PORK BUTT	$10.95

International campaign aims to save Pagan Island

University of Hawaii biologists who were part of a recent biological survey team on Pagan Island are spearheading an international effort to save the island from almost certain environmental and cultural destruction.

The government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is considering a proposal from Japanese investors to lease beautiful and biologically unique Pagan Island, as a dumping ground for tons of tsunami debris.

This proposal was initiated by agents for Asia Mining Development PTE Ltd and Kankyo Kaizen Kiko Co. Ltd. who want to mine Pagan Island for pozzolan (volcanic ash used in the manufacture of cement). To offset the cost of bringing empty ships from Japan to Pagan Island to collect the pozzolan, the investors propose transport of millions of metric tons of tsunami debris.

The *Saipan Tribune* on May 16, 2012, reported that the Japanese investors want to lease about 2,000 hectares of the island, whose entire area is only about 4,700 hectares. This would surely include all of the northern half of Pagan Island, where a small runway is located and is the site of traditional homesites of Chamorro people native to the island.

Pagan is one of the largest and most biologically and geologically diverse islands in the Mariana Archipelago. Three volcanic cones constitute the landmass of Pagan, of which the highest, Mount Pagan, is active and produces a constant cloud of steam and ash. Pagan is host to much of the native and endemic flora and fauna of the Mariana Island, including threatened and endangered species, such as the endemic subspecies of the Mariana fruit bat, the endemic Micronesian megapode, the threatened tree snail Partula gibba, and several species of sea turtles. Already confined to a small island archipelago, the biota of the Mariana Islands are under siege by human induced habitat destruction, especially on the more populated islands of Guam, Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

International outcry over this proposal and its potential impacts to the environment and the prosperity of the people of the CNMI has begun and the official Save Pagan Island petition received over 2,000 signatures from around the world within days.

For more information about Pagan and the efforts to save the island, and to view the petition, visit savepaganisland.org. ***(PR)***

NMC graduates are 1st NMI applicants for Troops to Teachers

NMC

Northern Marianas College education graduates Roman Benavente, left, and Clarissa Mobel, right, pose for a photo with National Troops to Teachers CNMI coordinator Geri Willis after applying to become participants and teachers in the Troops to Teachers program.

Northern Marianas College graduates Roman Benavente and Clarissa Mobel recently became the first two applicants of the U.S. Department of Defense's Troops to Teachers program.

The Troops to Teachers program was established in 1994 by the U.S. Department of Defense to assist eligible military personnel with a bachelor's degree to enter a career as a teacher in a high needs school. Detailed eligibility requirements are listed on the Troops to Teachers website www.ProudToServeAgain.com.

The program provides participants up to $5,000 to aid in the costs of becoming certified to teach and offers bonuses of $10,000 to those who teach in schools that serve a high percentage of low-income families, such as the schools in the CNMI.

Benavente and Mobel applied for TTT's bonus after graduating from NMC with a bachelor's degree in elementary education in May. Both are currently working as teachers in the CNMI Public School System.

"I'm elated that Roman and Clarissa applied for the Troops to Teachers," said Geri Willis, National Troops to Teachers CNMI coordinator. "This bonus will definitely help them in the future. I've known Roman and Clarissa for many years; they're excellent role models, tenacious and hardworking."

Benavente has served in the Army Reserve for 16 years while Mobel has served for eight years. Both soldiers have served in Iraq.

"Troops to Teachers doesn't only offer financial assistance to military personnel," said Willis. "We also help them through the process of becoming a certified teacher, finding employment, and then transitioning into their new career."

"For those currently pursuing their bachelor's degree and interested in being part of the Troops to Teachers, I recommend that they begin considering this program in their junior year to look into all their options," Willis added.

For more information about the Troops to Teachers program, contact Willis at 234-5498 Ext. 1028 or 287-2004, or email gwillis@mpttt.org. ***(NMC)***

Church 360 to host free movie night

Church 360 will feature the film *Facing the Giants* for its free movie night on Saturday, June 2, at 7pm.

Facing the Giants is a 2006 American Christian drama directed by and starring Alex Kendrick and has a supporting cast composed of volunteers from Sherwood Baptist Church.

Kayla Wood, worship leader for Church 360, said the movie is about a high school football team, the Shiloh Eagles, and the issues they face on and off the field.

"This movie is a family friendly film so everyone is welcome," said Wood.

She said they will offer the free movie night "theater style" by providing free popcorn and water to moviegoers. She noted, though, that moviegoers may also bring their own food and non-alcoholic beverages.

Church 360 is a contemporary non-denominational Christian church on Saipan located at Suite 103 on the ground floor of Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe. For more information, call 888-2116 or email info@church360saipan.org. ***(Clarissa V. David)***

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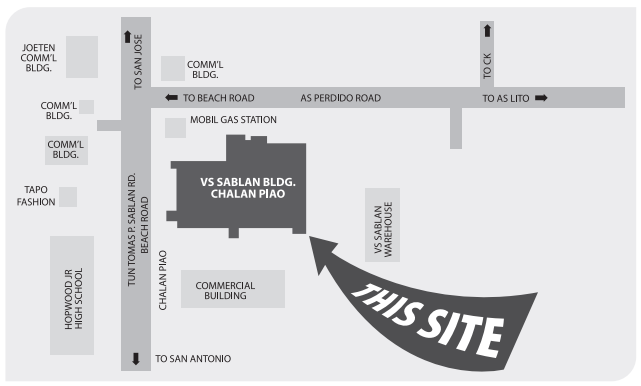

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HEALTH WALK
JUNE 2, 2012
LIVE HEALTHY:
Life Walk
with
PSS
Registration Information:
Saipan: 5:30am to 8:00am – 13 Fisherman Pavilion
Tinian: 6:00am to 8:00am – Tachog'na Beach
Rota: 6:00am to 8:00am – Joaquin M. Ogo Softball Field
– Dr. Rita Hocog Inos RJSHS
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12th Grade Tinian High School

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
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PROJECT BRABU

Public Service Announcement - Availability of Federal Funds

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation: Department of Public Health Substance Abuse Prevention Unit - Project Brabu is pleased to announce the availability of federal funds, through the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG) for eligible communities in the CNMI to apply. This project is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

Details of the grant and funds available are listed below.

I. Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG): FY2012 $400,000

The planning and implementation of this grant award will focus on four primary goals:

1.) Build Prevention Capacity and Infrastructure in the CNMI
2.) Prevent the Initiation of and Reduce Substance Abuse, Including Childhood and Underage Drinking
3.) Reduce Substance Abuse-related Problems
4.) Evaluate All Activities

The SPF SIG provides awarded communities with the opportunity to build and/or strengthen an effective and sustainable evidence-based prevention program that is responsive to the needs of the CNMI community. Community programs are required to implement evidence-based prevention programs focused on the following priorities that have been determined by Project Brabu and the State Epidemiological Workgroup (SEW):

1) Underage Drinking, and/or
2) Drinking and Driving

This grant award requires a **Strategic Prevention Framework** to help guide communities toward successful program management process following the five steps below:

1) Assessment: Accurately assess community problems, assets, and resources;
2) Capacity: Describe current capacity and/or plans to build capacity;
3) Planning: Develop a comprehensive Strategic Plan;
4) Implement: Identify the evidence-based program, policy, or practice to be implemented;
5) Evaluate: Process and impact evaluation through monitoring and documentation of program implementation.

The Project Brabu Advisory Council will make the final approval in consultation and collaboration with the SPF SIG Project Director on applications to be awarded based on a point system. The grant application guidelines detail the information required and the points under each of the sections.

All completed applications must be submitted to the CHCC: DPH Project Brabu's office on Saipan and the Prevention Coordinators on Tinian and Rota no later than 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 26, 2012.

Sub-Grant Application forms and guidelines may be obtained at the Project Brabu Office at the CHCC: DPH or the Substance Abuse Prevention offices on Rota and Tinian. Also, the application form and guidelines are available online at www.cgcspn.net. For more information, please contact Ms. Tiara Evangelista at 236-8740 or ti.evangelista@gmail.com (Saipan); Mr. Keith Nabors, Prevention Coordinator (Tinian) at 433-6572 or tiniantyphoon@hotmail.com; or Ms. Avery Hocog, Prevention Coordinator (Rota) at 532-9461 or projectbraburota@yahoo.com.

Pre application workshops are scheduled as follows:

- June 13 (Saipan), TBD
- June 14 (Tinian), TBD
- June 15 (Rota), TBD

These workshops will provide on-site technical assistance in discussing the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) 5-step process, the sub grant components and requirements. The workshops are available to interested community members/agencies and are free of charge.

/s/ Mr. Claudio Norita
Chairman, Advisory Council

/s/ Mrs. Reyna Saures
SPF SIG Project Director

Business

RIM sinks, but patents, network have value

WATERLOO, Ontario (AP)—Research In Motion Ltd., the maker of the BlackBerry, is in steep decline. The company, once the crown jewel of the Canadian technology industry, is now worth 1 percent of Apple's market capitalization. One way for RIM to stop the downward tailspin: It could sell itself to a competitor or financial firm. But who would step up to buy RIM—and why?

Late Tuesday, the company said it expects to post an operating loss for the current quarter, a sign that BlackBerry sales are falling even faster than analysts expected. On Wednesday, the company's stock hit its lowest level since 2003, the year RIM went from making two-way e-mail pagers to smartphones.

The stock has fallen 93 percent since their peak in 2008. Since then, the BlackBerry's dominance as the smartphone for on-the-go business people has been eviscerated by Apple Inc.'s iPhone, and more recently, by phones running Google Inc.'s Android software. Research firm IDC says BlackBerrys now account for 6.4 percent of the global smartphone market, a third of what they had two years ago.

In that time, the company's financial performance has suffered. RIM reported a 25 percent revenue decline in the latest fiscal quarter, to $4.2 billion from $5.6 billion. For the full fiscal year that ended on March 3, it earned $1.2 billion, or $2.22 per share, on revenue of $18.4 billion. That's down from net income of $3.4 billion, or $6.34 a share, on revenue of $19.9 billion in fiscal 2011.

RIM issued the dire warning about its business Tuesday, adding that it will lay off a "significant" number of employees.

Still, the company is defiant. Chief executive, Thorsten Heins, says he can turn things around with the help of fresh smartphone software. Heins joined RIM four years ago and was most recently its chief operating officer. He replaced co-CEOs Balsillie and Mike Lazaridis in January after the company lost tens of billions in market value.

"My charter from the board of directors is very clear: long-term value creation with RIM," Heins told The Associated Press in an interview at the company's headquarters in Waterloo, Ontario, earlier this month.

Analysts give RIM only a slight chance of coming out of the crisis. To hedge its bets, the company has hired bankers to look at its options. It's not actively looking to sell itself, Heins said, but it wants to be prepared.

"We are prudent because we know the situation is somewhat challenging," Heins said. "So we are just looking at everything that could be an option. That doesn't mean we are pulling on those options. But we need to understand ... what is our field of action that we could take in case we need to?"

Market fears send key interest rate to 66-year low

NEW YORK (AP)—The drop in a key interest rate to a 66-year low is a sign of one thing—fear.

Traders don't actually think a Treasury note paying 1.62 percent is a good investment. They just trust Uncle Sam to keep their money safe if Europe falls apart.

"When people just want to get their money back, there's not a lot of competition," said Bill O'Donnell, head of U.S. Treasury strategy at the Royal Bank of Scotland.

The benchmark 10-year Treasury note fell Wednesday to its lowest level since November 1945 as worries about the European debt crisis roiled markets worldwide. Investors sold off stocks and plowed money into government bonds that are considered safe.

The search for hiding places was spurred by news out of Spain, the latest trouble spot in the region's debt crisis. The European Central Bank said Spaniards pulled billions in deposits out of their banks last month, raising concerns of a larger bank run.

The yield on the 10-year Treasury dropped to 1.62 percent, a steep drop from 1.74 percent late Tuesday. Rising demand for bonds pushes their yields lower.

When banks or big investors get frightened, their concern is no longer about making more money, O'Donnell said. They just want to avoid losing it. That's why traders on Wednesday bought German government two-year notes paying 0 percent, he said. They're simply handing their money over for safekeeping.

"People still have faith that they'll get their money back from the U.S. government," said Ira Jersey, U.S. interest rate strategist at Credit Suisse.

For the federal government, that trust means it can borrow at rock-bottom rates even as debts pile higher. Total federal debt now sits at a record $15.7 trillion. But it cost the government more to borrow when debts were lower. The 10-year yield has averaged 4.7 percent over the past 20 years.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Obama's health care aid to small firms disappoints

WASHINGTON (AP)—Many small businesses struggle to afford health insurance for their workers, but a new tax credit meant to help them seems to be turning into a disappointment. Although opinion polls show the credit is one of the most popular ideas in President Barack Obama's health care law, only 170,300 businesses out of a pool of as many as 4 million potentially eligible claimed it in 2010, about 4 percent. A recent government report found the tax credit time-consuming to apply for and not rewarding enough to be financially attractive. That's put the Obama administration in the awkward position of asking Congress to help fix the problems by allowing more businesses to qualify and making it simpler to apply. But Republicans who run the House say they want to repeal what they deride as "Obamacare," not fix its flaws.

Hundreds of salmonella cases tied to chicks

ATLANTA (AP)—Those cute mail-order chicks that wind up in children's Easter baskets and backyard farms have been linked to more than 300 cases of salmonella in the U.S.—mostly in youngsters—since 2004. An estimated 50 million live poultry are sold through the mail each year in the United States in a business that has been booming because of the growing popularity of backyard chicken farming as a hobby among people who like the idea of raising their own food. But health officials are warning of a bacterial threat on the birds' feet, feathers, beaks and eggs. "Most people can tell you that chicken meat may have salmonella on it," said Casey Barton Behravesh of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "But surprisingly, we found many people are not aware that live chicks and chickens can spread salmonella to people."

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Nation

Face-chewing victim face surgery, long recovery

MIAMI (AP)—A homeless man whose face was mostly chewed off in a bizarre, vicious attack faces a bigger threat from infection than from the injuries themselves, according to experts on facial reconstruction. He will require months of treatment to rebuild his features and be permanently disfigured.

Though gruesome, such severe facial injuries are generally not life threatening. The most serious risk to Ronald Poppo as he remained hospitalized Wednesday were germs that may have been introduced by the bites of the naked man who attacked him. One of the 65-year-old's eyes was also gouged out.

"The human mouth is basically filthy," said Dr. Seth Thaller, the chief of plastic and reconstructive surgery at the University of Miami's Miller School of Medicine.

It's not clear why Poppo was attacked Saturday afternoon by 31-year-old Rudy Eugene alongside a busy highway. Police have released few details, but surveillance video from a nearby building shows Eugene pulling Poppo from the shade, stripping and pummeling him before appearing to hunch over and then lie on top of him.

A witness described Eugene ripping at Poppo's face with his mouth and growling at a Miami police officer who ordered him to get off the homeless man. The officer shot and killed Eugene.

Eugene's younger brother said he was a sweet person who didn't drink much or use hard drugs.

"I wish they didn't kill him so he could tell us exactly what happened. This is very uncharacteristic of him," said the brother, who asked for anonymity to protect his family from harassment.

Police union officials representing the officer said the scene on the MacArthur Causeway was one of the goriest they had ever seen.

"He had his face eaten down to his goatee. The forehead was just bone. No nose, no mouth," said Sgt. Armando Aguilar, president of the Miami Fraternal Order of Police.

Poppo has been in critical condition in recent days, but police didn't give an update on his condition Wednesday.

Thaller, who is not treating Poppo, and other plastic surgeons said the rebuilding of Poppo's face would happen in stages after doctors try to keep his wounds clean, salvage viable tissue and determine a plan for skin grafts. Protecting his remaining eye and maintaining an airway are priorities.

To keep the wounds clean, doctors use grafts of the patient's skin, cadaver skin or synthetic skin to cover the exposed bone or cartilage, said Dr. Blane Shatkin, a plastic surgeon and director of the wound healing center at Memorial Hospital Pembroke in South Florida. The coverage would act like a dressing, protecting the wound as it heals.

Poppo's lifestyle and health before the attack could determine how doctors proceed and whether they eventually consider a facial transplant, plastic surgeons said. Poppo had been homeless for more than 30 years, previously survived a gunshot wound and faced multiple charges of public intoxication, among other arrests.

Wis archdiocese paid priests to leave ministry

MILWAUKEE (AP)—The Archdiocese of Milwaukee confirmed Wednesday that it had a policy to pay suspected pedophile priests to leave the ministry.

The acknowledgement was prompted by a document made public by abuse victims' advocates from the archdiocese's bankruptcy that references a 2003 proposal to pay $20,000 to "unassignable priests" who accepted a return to the laity. The policy was crafted under then-Archbishop Timothy Dolan, who is now a cardinal and head of the archdiocese in New York.

The Survivors Network of Those Abused by Priests characterizes the payments as a payoff and bonuses to priests who molested children. The archdiocese disputes that characterization, saying the payments were in part to more quickly move those men out of the priesthood.

The group is calling on the archdiocese to release all records involving the payments and its handling of clergy sex abuse cases.

"You don't give a bonus to a man who rapes children," the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel quoted SNAP Midwest director Peter Isely as saying Wednesday outside the federal courthouse in Milwaukee. "If they paid them anything it should have been for therapy and counseling."

According to the Journal Sentinel, the 2003 bankruptcy document appears to be the first public acknowledgement of a formal policy to pay trouble priests to leave.

Disputing that, archdiocese spokeswoman Julie Wolf told The Associated Press late Wednesday that both the payments and the policy regarding them had long been acknowledged by the archdiocese.

ACROSS THE NATION

Ind. man shoots 4, 1 fatally, before shooting self

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—A gunman opened fire at an Indianapolis apartment complex Wednesday, fatally shooting a woman and wounding three other people before turning the gun on himself as officers confronted him, police said. The woman who died in the Villa Paree's leasing office was an employee of the apartment complex in the city's northeast side, Indianapolis police spokesman Officer Kendale Adams said. Two other women and a maintenance worker also were shot, though all three were in stable condition Wednesday night at local hospitals, police said. Police have no information about a possible motive but believe the gunman lived at the complex. Adams said officers confronted him near the apartment complex's pool before he shot himself.

Alaska residents warned about aggressive cow moose

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—Alaska wildlife biologists are warning about the dangers of moose calving season after several people were injured in the past week by protective cows, including a 6-year-old girl who was stomped by one in her backyard until her father scared it off with a log and a baseball bat. Alaska Department of Fish and Game biologist Jessy Coltrane said cow moose are giving birth now, and people need to be extra careful in and near the woods. "Cows are dropping calves all over town right now," Coltrane said. "Those cows are so defensive of their little babies. They will literally stand there on the edge of the woods watching you, and if you take one step into their personal bubble, they'll come out hooves flying."

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

This ad is paid for by NMHC funds.

Notice is hereby given that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is the agency authorized to allocate Low Incoming Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) in the CNMI. The United States 1986 Tax Reform Act created the federal low-income housing tax credit program under Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code (Code) to assist with the development of low-income rental housing by providing qualified owners with credit to offset their federal tax obligations. The LIHTC is available to owners/developers of qualifying buildings and projects that meet certain low-income occupancy and rent restrictions.

Section 42 of the Code provides that the CNMI prepare a Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) to determine housing priorities and to give preference to projects serving the lowest income tenants and projects obligated to serve qualified tenants for the longest periods. The QAP must incorporate selection criteria, which includes project location, housing need characteristics, sponsor characteristics, tenant populations with special needs, and public housing waiting lists. NMHC has made amendments to the previous QAP's selection criteria and fees.

NMHC will conduct a public hearing to solicit comments from the public on June 11, 2012, 10:00 a.m. at NMHC's Office in Garapan, Saipan. Copies of the amended QAP are also available at NMHC's Office in Garapan, Saipan.

Interested persons wishing to express their views on the amended QAP may do so either by attending the public hearing or by submitting comments to NMHC by 4:30 p.m. on June 11, 2012.

For more information on this program, please contact NMHC at 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

/s/ **JESSE S. PALACIOS**
Acting Corporate Director

NMHC will make necessary arrangements for persons with disabilities or persons requiring interpreters upon prior notification. Should you require such arrangement, please contact Ms. Jocelyn Kaipat at telephone numbers 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the State Rehabilitation Council will hold its FY'12 Third General Membership on Thursday, June 07, 2012 at Charley's Cabaret, Pacific Islands Club at 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

I. Meeting Call to Order
II. Roll Call by SRC Secretary
III. Review and adoption of Agenda
IV. Review and adoption of the FY '12 Second Meeting Minutes (03/06/12)
V. Reports
a. OVR Director
b. Sub-Committee Chairpersons
c. SRC Chairperson
-Trip Reports
VI. Old Business
a) Draft FY 2013 State Plan
b) Review OVR MOA with agencies (PSS/SpEd & NMC, etc.)
c) Ongoing review of OVR Policies/Procedures
VII. New Business
a. CNMI Energy Division Presentation
b. Guam & CNMI VR/SRC Sensitivity Training for the physically, developmentally and intellectually challenged
c. 2012 NDEAM (National Disability Employment Awareness Month) Plan
VIII. Consumer Forum
IX. Announcements/Miscellaneous
X. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language interpreters, are asked to call 322-6537 (voice) or 322-6449 (TTY) two days before the meeting. For more clarification, please contact Elvira Seman at 322-6537 (voice) or 322-6449 (TTY).

/s/ Isidro K. Seman
CHAIRMAN

Asia

3rd witness in PH massacre of 57 killed

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A third witness in the 2009 election-related massacre of 57 people in the Philippines has been killed and his body chopped to pieces, a prosecutor said Thursday, casting a shadow over efforts to deliver justice in the country's worst recent bloodletting.

The victim, Esmail Amil Enog, testified in court last year that he drove dozens of gunmen to the site of the massacre in southern Maguindanao province from the residence of one of the suspects.

Enog was killed in March but authorities learned about it only recently, prosecutor Nena Santos said. He had refused protection from the Justice Department, she said.

Members of the politically powerful Ampatuan clan are suspected in the massacre of their opponents in the impoverished, lawless region.

Among the dead were at least 31 media workers who traveled in a convoy that was ambushed en route to register the candidacy for governor of one of the Ampatuans' rivals. It was the single worst killing of journalists in the world.

Enog was a member of a government-armed militia force that was working for the Ampatuans, who were mayors and governors in the region. He testified in July 2011 that he drove 36 other militiamen from the residence of Kanor Ampatuan, a cousin of clan patriarch and chief suspect Andal Ampatuan Sr., to a remote village in Ampatuan township where the 57 victims were brought and shot at close range.

The gunmen tried to hide the massacre by burying the bodies and some of their vehicles in a common grave.

Santos said Enog had refused the government's witness protection program because he did not want to be separated from his family. "Life is difficult under the witness protection program," she said.

She said that police reported his body was found dismembered and no suspect had been arrested.

He was the third witness to be killed since the trial opened inside a maximum security prison in Manila in 2010. More than 20 witnesses have testified against 103 suspects who have pleaded not guilty to murder charges. Nearly 100 others are still at large.

The trial has been moving at a slow pace, frustrating victims' relatives. It is not clear how long the proceedings will last and whether they will result in convictions. No verdict has been announced yet.

Santos said that witnesses and their families continue to face death threats and some are being offered bribes not to testify. A sibling of another witness also has been killed, she said.

The New York-based Human Rights Watch called on the Philippine government to redouble its efforts to protect witnesses in the massacre case.

"As the reported killing of witness Esmail Amil Enog underscores, these witnesses are in extreme danger and it is appalling that they are being hunted down one after the other," the group's deputy Asia director, Elaine Pearson, said in a statement.

Nepal's opposition vows protests to topple PM

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP)—Nepal's opposition parties said they will team up to topple the government, as they accused the prime minister Wednesday of having no moral or legal grounds to stay in power ahead of new elections.

Prime Minister Baburam Bhattarai's opponents say he lost his legitimacy Sunday when the term of the country's Constituent Assembly expired without agreement on a constitution. Bhattarai has said he will lead a caretaker government until another assembly is picked in elections he called for November.

The leader of the Nepali Congress party, Arjun Narsingh, said his and 14 other parties have agreed to hold rallies and street protests aimed at pressuring Bhattarai to resign. Protests took place in the capital Wednesday.

"We are not against elections, but we don't want Baburam Bhattarai to conduct the elections," Narsingh said. "We are demanding a new government that would have representation from all major political parties to ensure that the polls are free and fair."

Writing the new constitution was supposed to cap an interim period aimed at solidifying details of Nepal's democracy after the country closed centuries of royal rule and resolved a decade-long Maoist insurgency by bringing the former combatants into the political mainstream.

The assembly was elected in 2008 under a two-year term that was renewed four times as parties bickered over the details of a constitution, including whether states should be drawn to give regional power bases to ethnic minorities.

Its term expired Sunday after the Supreme Court rejected any further extensions, leaving the Himalayan nation with no legal government.

The opposition has claimed that rather than calling for fresh elections, a vote could been held on whether to allow the assembly to continue as a parliament.

Pradeep Gyawali of the Communist Party of Nepal (United Marxist Leninist) said Bhattarai's decision to let the assembly expire without such a vote showed he wanted to keep power in any way possible.

"This just shows that Bhattarai's intention was to continue in power without a legislature to check on him," Gyawali said.

ASIA BRIEFS

Philippine economic growth picks up at 6.4 percent

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine economy grew a faster-than-expected 6.4 percent in the first three months of the year, boosted by increased government spending. The National Economic and Development Authority says the pickup from a sluggish 3.7 percent growth in 2011 also shows renewed business confidence in the Philippines. The growth was fueled by a surge in public construction as the government splashed out on new roads and airports. The government late last year announced a 72 billion peso ($1.66 billion) stimulus package to cushion the economy from Europe's debt crisis.

China denies diplomat spied on Japan

BEIJING (AP)—China is denying spying allegations against one of its diplomats who left Japan this month after refusing a police request to appear for questioning. Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Weimin told reporters Wednesday it was baseless to call Li Chunguang a spy. Japanese reports say police suspect Li was collecting intelligence on Japanese politicians and businessmen. The case points to enduring mistrust between the sides stemming from historical enmity, economic rivalry, and a territorial dispute over uninhabited islands in the East China Sea.

Crocodile attacks kill 2 Indonesians in 2 months

LAMPUNG, Indonesia (AP)—Two deadly crocodile attacks have taken two Indonesian men in the same river in less than two months. The head of the local conservation agency says a saltwater crocodile reportedly swallowed a 20-year-old villager who was bathing Tuesday on a river on Sumatra island. Suprianto said the 35-year-old man killed last month was dragged away and his partial corpse was found four days later about two miles from where he was attacked.

World

11-year-old played dead to survive Syria massacre

BEIRUT (AP)—When the gunmen began to slaughter his family, 11-year-old Ali el-Sayed says he fell to the floor of his home, soaking his clothes with his brother's blood to fool the killers into thinking he was already dead.

The Syrian boy tried to stop himself from trembling, even as the gunmen, with long beards and shaved heads, killed his parents and all four of his siblings, one by one.

The youngest to die was Ali's brother, 6-year-old Nader. His small body bore two bullet holes—one in his head, another in his back.

"I put my brother's blood all over me and acted like I was dead," Ali told The Associated Press over Skype on Wednesday, his raspy voice steady and matter-of-fact, five days after the killing spree that left him both an orphan and an only child.

■■■

BEIRUT (AP)—Thirteen bound corpses, many apparently shot execution-style, have been discovered in eastern Syria, U.N. observers said Wednesday, days after the massacre of more than 100 people provoked international outrage and the coordinated expulsion of Syrian diplomats from world capitals.

The latest killings happened in Deir el-Zour province, where the bodies were found late Tuesday blindfolded with their hands tied behind their backs. A statement by the U.N. mission said some appeared to have been shot in the head at close range.

A video posted online by activists showed the men lying face down, pools of dried blood under their heads.

The head of the U.N. observer team, Maj. Gen. Robert Mood, said he was "deeply disturbed by this appalling and inexcusable act."

■■■

Ali is one of the few survivors of a weekend massacre in Houla, a collection of poor farming villages and olive groves in Syria's central Homs province. More than 100 people were killed, many of them women and children who were shot or stabbed in their houses.

Isolating Syria

Syrian ambassadors, diplomats are being expelled from many countries following the May 25 killings in Houla.

What we know

- According to a U.N. report, 49 children and 34 women were among the 108 who were killed
- Most of the dead were executed
- Houla is a collection of farming villages in Syria's beseiged Homs province

Countries that have taken action

Expelled Syrian officials, as of May 29

Source: ESRI, AP © 2012 MCT

The killings brought immediate, worldwide condemnation of President Bashar Assad, who has unleashed a violent crackdown on an uprising that began in March 2011. Activists say as many as 13,000 people have been killed since the revolt began.

U.N. investigators and witnesses blame at least some of the Houla killings on shadowy gunmen known as shabiha who operate on behalf of Assad's government.

Recruited from the ranks of Assad's Alawite religious community, the militiamen enable the government to distance itself from direct responsibility for the execution-style killings, torture and revenge attacks that have become hallmarks of the shabiha.

In many ways, the shabiha are more terrifying than the army and security forces, whose tactics include shelling residential neighborhoods and firing on protesters. The swaggering gunmen are deployed specifically to brutalize and intimidate Assad's opponents.

Activists who helped collect the dead in the aftermath of the Houla massacre described dismembered bodies in the streets, and row upon row of corpses shrouded in blankets.

"When we arrived on the scene we started seeing the scale of the massacre," said Ahmad al-Qassem, a 35-year-old activist. "I saw a kid with his brains spilling out, another child who was no more than 1 year old who was stabbed in the head. The smell of death was overpowering."

The regime denies any responsibility for the Houla killings, blaming them on terrorists. And even if the shabiha are responsible for the killings, there is no clear evidence that the regime directly ordered the massacre in a country spiraling toward civil war.

As witness accounts begin to leak out, it remains to be seen what, exactly, prompted the massacre. Although the Syrian uprising has been among the deadliest of the Arab Spring, the killings in Houla stand out for their sheer brutality and ruthlessness.

According to the U.N., which is investigating the attack, most of the victims were shot at close range, as were Ali's parents and siblings. The attackers appeared to be targeting the most vulnerable people, such as children and the elderly, to terrorize the population.

This type of massacre—even more than the shelling and mortar attacks that have become daily occurrences in the uprising—is a sign of a new level of violence. By most accounts, the gunmen descended on Houla from an arc of nearby villages, making the deaths all the more horrifying because the victims could have known their attackers.

According to activists in the area, the massacre came after the army pounded the villages with artillery and clashed with local rebels following anti-regime protests. Several demonstrators were killed, and the rebels were forced to withdraw. The pro-regime gunmen later stormed in, doing the bulk of the killing.

Syrian activist Maysara Hilaoui said he was at home when the massacre in Houla began. He said there were two waves of violence, one starting at 5 p.m. Friday and a second at 4 a.m. Saturday.

"The shabiha took advantage of the withdrawal of rebel fighters," he said. "They started entering homes and killing the young as well as the old."

Ali, the 11-year-old, said his mother began weeping the moment about 11 gunmen entered the family home in the middle of the night. The men led Ali's father and oldest brother outside.

WORLD BRIEFS

Israel's Barak: Weigh 'unilateral action'

JERUSALEM (AP)—There are signs the Israeli government is considering taking unilateral action if peace talks with the Palestinians remain stalled, a move which could involve a withdrawal from parts of the West Bank along the lines of a 2005 pullout from the Gaza Strip. Defense Minister Ehud Barak told a high-profile security conference on Wednesday that inaction is not an option and Israel cannot wait forever to reach an accord. "Israel cannot afford to tread water," Barak said. If a deal "proves to be impossible, we have to consider a provisional arrangement or even unilateral action." The statement reflected a growing sense of urgency in Israel about ending its 45-year entanglement with the Palestinians, even if no peace deal is possible.

Mubarak's sons face new charges of insider trading

CAIRO (AP)—Hosni Mubarak's two sons were accused Wednesday with insider trading in a new case opened just three days before they and their elderly father are to hear the verdict in a separate trial on charges of corruption and complicity in killing protesters during last year's uprising. The prosecutions of the Mubarak family and its cronies had seemed to be part of a process of dismantling the old regime ousted in the uprising. But now Mubarak's last prime minister and longtime protege is one of two candidates heading into a runoff vote for president in just a few weeks. The new case, which was referred to trial, was interpreted as a timely attempt by Egypt's military rulers to assuage anger over the possible ascent to the presidency of Ahmed Shafiq, the last prime minister to serve under Mubarak and, like his mentor, a former air force commander. Shafiq is widely viewed as an extension of the Mubarak regime remembered for authoritarianism, corruption and a brutal police force.

Ex-Cameron aide arrested, charged with perjury

LONDON (AP)—The former top media adviser to Prime Minister David Cameron was arrested and charged with perjury Wednesday in the trial of a flamboyant ex-Scottish lawmaker—the latest case tied to allegations of wrongdoing by British tabloid newspapers. Andy Coulson, 44, was detained by Scottish police at his home in London Wednesday morning over an accusation related to testimony he gave in a high-profile case at Glasgow's High Court in 2010, when politician Tommy Sheridan was himself convicted of offering a false account in a legal hearing. He arrived in Glasgow Wednesday afternoon for questioning there, but was not arrested or charged until late Wednesday evening. In Scotland, which uses a different legal system from the rest of Britain, a suspect can be detained by police to answer questions before being formally arrested or charged.

NOTICE OF TERMINATION AND DISSOLUTION

TJD-JI, INC.

NOTICE is hereby given that **TJD-JI, INC.,** a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands was terminated and dissolved effective May 31, 2008, and intends to terminate its existence. All persons which claims against the Company are to send them in writing to the Company at the following address: PMB 1 Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950, Attention: David W. Dougherty. The written claim must include the following:

(1) Claimant's full legal name and contact information (address, email, telephone number, fax, etc.);
(2) Summary description and amount for the claim;
(3) Date the claim arose: and
(4) Copies of all documents and other information evidencing the claim.

Pursuant to 4CMC § 4908(b)(3), as amended, a claim against the Company is barred unless a proceeding to enforce the claim is commenced within five (5) years after publication date of this notice. Further, pursuant to 4 CMC 4908(c), the claim of each of the following claimants is barred unless the claimant commences a proceeding to enforce the claim against the dissolved company within five (5) years after the publication date of this notice:

(1) A claimant who did not receive written notice under 4 CMC 4907;
(2) A claimant whose claim was timely sent to the dissolved company but not acted on; and
(3) A claimant whose claim is contingent or based on an event occurring after the effective date of dissolution.

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION, Plaintiff, -v- TANINA M. TAMMY, Defendant. : CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0037

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on October 14, 2011, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No 011 G 4564, situated in Kagman III, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 805 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 11 dated December 1, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 93-4179, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, June 8, 2012, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 8th day of May, 2012:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CONRAD S. HOFSCHNEIDER, Plaintiff, vs. ANTHONY U. HOFSCHNEIDER, Defendant. **Civil Action No. 08-0190** **NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order Granting Writ of Execution issued by the Court in this matter on March 16, 2012, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in the following property: Lot No. 057 T 05: located on Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 10,000 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Survey Official Cadastral Plat No. 057 T 01 dated May 4, 1990, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 90-1770 dated May 7, 1990, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on **June 29, 2012**, at the hour of 10:00 am, at the **Tinian court house**, P.O. Box 80 Tinian, MP 96952 San Jose, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public and will be held in reserve.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a) Withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c) To reject any and all bids.
2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758 CK, Saipan, MP 9695, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; E-mail: rttlaw@pticom.com.
3. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and the loss of any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in the property.
4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and Mr. Conrad S. Hofschneider reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 14th day of May, 2012.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Off the Wall

NM community, officials at odds over free-roaming dog

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)—Blue the dog doesn't have a home. And he apparently doesn't want one. But the blue-eyed Australian cattle dog has $1,800 in savings, a Facebook page and an air-conditioned dog house.

He also has a lawyer, who is working to get him an exemption from local leash laws so he can continue his free-wheeling lifestyle in southern New Mexico's lakeside community of Elephant Butte, where he was abandoned as a puppy a decade ago.

The City Council has scheduled a June 13 meeting, where supporters of Blue, who is also known as Bluedog, hope to end an impasse over his fate.

Janice Conner, co-owner of Butte General Store and Marina, says it all began about 10 years ago when the dog was abandoned at Casa Taco, where Blue was cared for by the owner until he died two years ago.

After that, Blue made his way to the general store, where he was fed and peacefully coexisted until last spring, when a 48-year-old woman was fatally mauled by pit bulls in nearby Truth or Consequences.

After that, Conner says a woman started complaining to the city when Blue would follow her and her dog on a nearby walking path. And this spring, Conner's husband, Bob Owen, was cited for having Blue off-leash, prompting the legal skirmish that caught the attention of Albuquerque attorney and lake property owner Hilary Noskin.

Noskin says she is working pro bono, trying to win an exemption for Blue so he can live out the rest of the years in front of the store he now calls home.

"He's one of my favorite clients," says Noskin. "He is a sweet, sweet dog. He doesn't meet any vicious dog standards. Somebody said he snarls ... but I am not sure I believe that."

City Manager Alan Briley says the city hopes to reach a compromise on Blue, but he noted that the safety of the dog and the community comes first. He says the city has received complaints about Blue snapping and growling and almost being hit by cars crossing the street.

Conner says Blue has rebuffed several attempts at adoption, always making his way back to the store where he has become a community mascot of sorts. She says residents have dumped more than $1,800 in a jar for his care—funds she says she keeps for legal bills or medical issues. Residents have also built him a dog house with heating pads for the winter months and air conditioning for the summer.

AP

This image provided by Butte General Store and Marine shows a dog known as Blue, Wednesday May 30, 2012 in Elephant butte, N.M.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Streaker at Cardinals game says he lost a bet

ST. LOUIS (AP)—A streaker who ran naked onto the field during a Cardinals game says he did so because he lost a bet. Twenty-two-year-old Collin Grundstrom of Jefferson City was captured at Busch Stadium after shedding his clothes before the start of the seventh inning Thursday night. Officers retrieved his shorts from the stands and made him put them back on before leading him away. The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reports that Grundstrom is charged with violating two city ordinances—being a spectator running on the playing field, and lewd and lascivious behavior. He was jailed overnight.

NYC's famed Algonquin cat, Matilda, is back

NEW YORK (AP)—Matilda the cat is back at work at New York City's Algonquin Hotel. The blue-eyed beauty was feeling the love as the hotel reopened Thursday after a five-month, $18 million renovation. She may not love her new bling, though. Thanks to a November issue with the Health Department, Matilda now wears a special collar that keeps her away from the hotel's food-related areas. The literary lights of the Round Table used to exchange witty remarks over lunch at the Algonquin. They were accustomed to the succession of cats that had free run around the hotel for 80 years. After prowling within her parameters, the silky-coated hostess curled up behind the computer at the front desk.

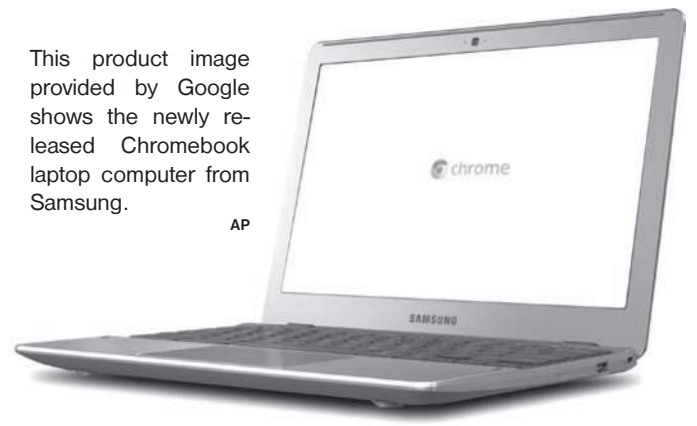
Upstate NY biker loses license for 170 mph ride

RAVENA, N.Y. (AP)—A 25-year-old upstate New York man has admitted driving his motorcycle at 170 mph as he tried to get away from police who caught him speeding on the Thruway. The Times Union of Albany reports that Nikkolaus McCarthy of Charlton will lose his license for 90 days and was sentenced to the 20 days he's already spent in jail. State police said McCarthy was spotted doing 166 mph in the southbound lanes of Interstate 87 just south of Albany on May 2. A trooper chased him and was able to get the Suzuki's plate number and the rider's description when he slowed in traffic. But McCarthy sped off again and was clocked at 170 mph before being caught in New Paltz.

Science & Technology

Google, Samsung unveil new version of the Chromebook

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Google will try to win more converts to a computer operating system revolving around its popular Chrome Web browser with a new wave of lightweight laptops built by Samsung Electronics.



This product image provided by Google shows the newly released Chromebook laptop computer from Samsung.

AP

Tuesday's release of the next-generation Chromebooks will give Google and Samsung another opportunity to persuade consumers and businesses to buy an unconventional computer instead of machines running on familiar software by industry pioneers Microsoft Corp. and Apple Inc.

Unlike most computers, Google's Chromebooks don't have a hard drive. They function like terminals dependent on an Internet connection. The laptops come with 16 gigabytes of flash memory—the kind found in smartphones, tablet computers and some iPods. Two USB ports allow external hard drives and other devices to be plugged into the machines.

Chromebooks haven't made much of a dent in the market since their debut a year ago. In that time, more people have been embracing Apple's iPad and other tablet computers—a factor that has contributed to a slowdown in sales of personal computers.

The cool reception to Chromebooks has raised questions about whether Google misjudged the demand for computers designed to quickly connect to its dominant Internet search engine and ever-expanding stable of other online services, ranging from email to a recently introduced file-storage system called Drive.

"The Chromebooks have had less to offer than tablets, so they haven't been that interesting to consumers," said Gartner analyst Mika Kitagawa.

Google says it always intended to take things slowly with the Chromebooks to give its engineers time to understand the shortcomings of the machines and make the necessary improvements.

"This release is a big step in the journey to bringing (Chromebooks) to the mainstream," said Sundar Pichai, Google's senior vice president of Chrome and apps.

The upgraded laptop, called "Series 5 550," is supposed to run two-and-half times faster than the original machines, and boasts higher-definition video. Google also added features that will enable users to edit documents offline, read more content created in widely used Microsoft applications such as Word and Excel, and retrieve material from another computer at home or an office. More emphasis is being placed on Chrome's Web store, which features more than 50,000 applications.

Malicious software requires a check

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: I've recently been told that I must check my computer for malicious software or risk losing my Internet connection in July. Is this true or is it some sort or urban legend or scam?—Diane deLaet, Miami

ANSWER: It's true. An FBI investigation discovered that about 570,000 computers worldwide had been taken over by malicious software, which redirected their Internet browsing to hacker-operated Web servers. The FBI describes the problem at http://www.tinyurl.com/cfmp6dj.

In March, the FBI said it had set a July 9 deadline for about 85,000 remaining U.S. consumers to clean the malicious software from their computers; after that the PCs won't be able to connect to the Internet because the bogus servers used for the attempted fraud will be turned off.

The FBI-authorized website http:///www.dns-ok.us will tell you whether your computer is infected and, if so, how to fix it.

Q: I have been using the Microsoft Money Deluxe 2005 financial program for years, primarily for record-keeping rather than online transactions or banking.

Now that I'm buying a new PC, is there a similar program into which I could import my existing Money 2005 information?—Carolyn Fies, Reading, Pa.

A: Microsoft discontinued its series of Money programs in 2009, but it offers the free program Money Plus Sunset Deluxe that's compatible with some previous Money programs. For more details, see this Microsoft website: http://www.tinyurl.com/7gf7auv. To try it, save your Money 2005 data file to a flash drive, then download Sunset Deluxe at http://www.tinyurl.com/cbym39s.

Or, if you have the original Money 2005 installation disk, you could install the program on a new PC that uses Windows 7—the online functions will no longer work—then import your data. For more details on this method, see http://www.tinyurl.com/ylx7qxz.

You can find similar, non-Microsoft programs at http://www.tinyurl.com/7v4tx3c, but they may not accept your data file.

Q: What's the best way to respond when programs request permission to make changes to my computer?—Michael Katz, Miami

A: The warnings you're seeing are generated by a security feature of Microsoft Windows called "user account control." Microsoft's Windows help website offers more information at http://www.tinyurl.com/cjx7ax6.

Whenever you receive the warning, you have to decide whether to trust that particular program. If the request comes from software that you bought, or which was recommended to you by a trusted source, allow the program to make changes. If you don't recognize the program making the request, answer no.

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. *Readers may write to him at steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.*

Life & Style

50 advance to semifinals of National Spelling Bee

OXON HILL, Md. (AP)—Lena Greenberg was in constant motion as she stood waiting for her turn at the microphone at the National Spelling Bee—arms waving, feet dancing, head bobbing.

"It calmed me down," Greenberg said later, although she certainly never looked calm.

Speaking in a loud, high-pitched voice, she spelled the words "jong" and "thalian" correctly. When the judges nodded their heads, she sprinted and skipped back to her chair and doubled over in delight.

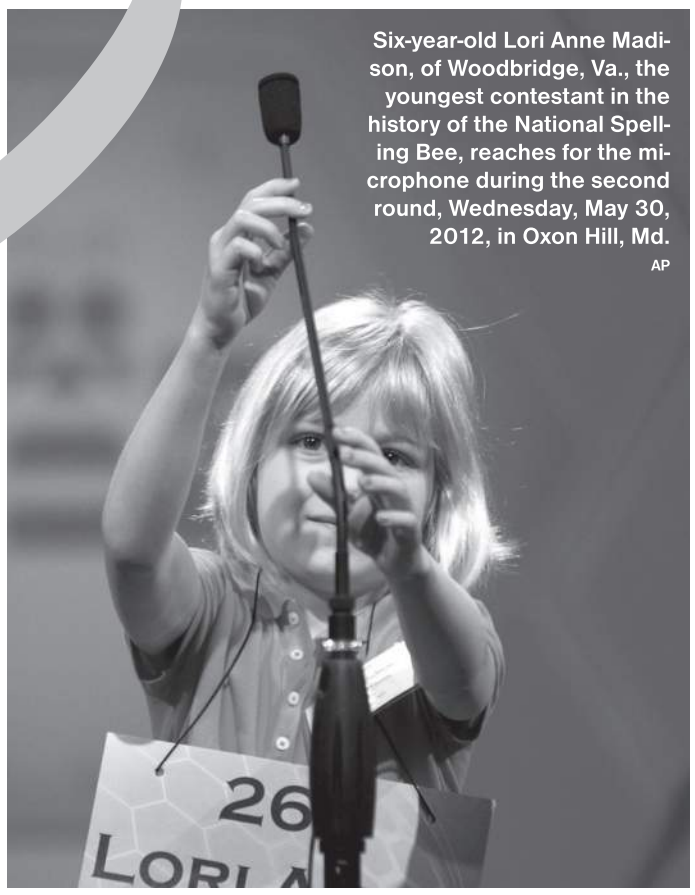
Greenberg, 14, of Philadelphia, was one of 50 spellers to advance to the semifinals of the 85th Scripps National Spelling Bee on Wednesday after 228 participants were eliminated. Last year, she missed the semifinals by one point.

Thursday's semifinals will not include the youngest speller in bee history, 6-year-old Lori Anne Madison of Lake Ridge, Va., although she made a valiant effort. Lori Anne misspelled one of her two words during the preliminary rounds—"ingluvies," which she started with an "e"—and her score on Tuesday's computer test wasn't enough to make up the difference.

"It was close," said spelling bee director Paige Kimball.

Only one semifinalist advanced with a perfect score—10-year-old Vanya Shivashankar of Olathe, Kan. Vanya's sister, Kavya, won the 2009 National Spelling Bee. On Wednesday, the fifth-grader spelled "debellation" and "auteur" with obvious ease, and she got all 25 scored words right on Tuesday's 50-word computer test—including "semelparous" and "outrecuidance."

Like her sister, Vanya aspires to be a surgeon, and she's part of a customarily strong contingent of Indian-Americans in the semifinals. Spellers of Indian descent have won four years in a row and nine of the last 13 years, a run that began when Nupur Lala captured the crown in 1999 and was featured in the documentary "Spellbound."



Six-year-old Lori Anne Madison, of Woodbridge, Va., the youngest contestant in the history of the National Spelling Bee, reaches for the microphone during the second round, Wednesday, May 30, 2012, in Oxon Hill, Md. AP

Last year, five spellers got perfect scores, and semifinalists could only afford to miss two words. This year's test was much more difficult—so 17 out of 25 was enough to advance. Two of last year's finalists also advanced—Nabeel Rahman of Buffalo, N.Y., and two-time finalist Arvind Mahankali of Bayside Hills, N.Y.

While 6-year-old Lori Anne was the talk of the spelling bee, Wednesday belonged to the veterans. In contrast to Greenberg's jitters, five-time National Spelling Bee participant Nicholas Rushlow was the picture of cool as he strutted to the microphone and greeted pronouncer Jacques Bailly.

Rushlow, a year-round competitive swimmer who reads "Get Fuzzy" comic books to relax before spelling, made the semifinals for a fourth time.

"I don't know what I'm going to do after this bee," he said. "I'll have to find a new hobby."

Rahul Malayappan of Danbury, Conn., the other fifth-time participant, also made the semifinals. Emily Keaton of Pikeville, Ky., made them for the third time in four appearances. "It's still a big deal," she said. "Everyone wants to do better than you've done before."

Three foreign competitors made the semifinals: Mignon Tsai of Vancouver, Jennifer Mong of St. John's, Newfoundland, and the unfailingly polite Gifton Wright of Spanish Town, Jamaica, who said "Thank you, sir" every time Bailly gave him a definition or word origin.

This week, Scripps announced tentative plans for a world spelling bee with teams of spellers from dozens of countries. Once that gets off the ground, the National Spelling Bee would be closed to international participants.

This year's winner gets $30,000 in cash, a trophy, a $2,500 savings bond, a $5,000 scholarship, $2,600 in reference works from the Encyclopedia Britannica and an online language course.

Most spellers have a routine, asking for the definition and country of origin even if they know the word immediately. Many pretend to write the words on their hands or arms. But some are confident enough to wing it.

Wearing a black hoodie, T-shirt and blue jeans, Dylan Bird, 13, of Pebble Beach, Calif., greeted Bailly with "'Sup?" before spelling "catalineta." Earlier, he spelled "corpuscle." Neither time did he ask for so much as a definition.

"I never really felt the need," said Bird, a second-time participant. "With experience, you kind of are able to relax a bit more."

His nonchalance apparently didn't work as well on the computer test. Bird didn't make the semifinals.

Neither did Jack Pasche, 13, of Sutton Bay, Mich., whose attempt to spell "idiosyncratically" was, well, idiosyncratic.

"I-O-Q-R-S-Z-quatro," he said, before laughter drowned him out.

Paper: Group sex for porn movie shot on LA field

LOS ANGELES (AP)—As stadiums went quiet around the country the weekend after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, there was plenty of action on the field at historic Memorial Coliseum and little of it had to do with football.

On Sept. 16, 2001, 40 minutes of group sex for a hardcore porn movie was filmed during a four-hour shoot under the lights at the Coliseum, the Los Angeles Times reported Wednesday.

The University of Southern California Trojans wouldn't have been on the field anyway that Sunday at the Coliseum, which is run by the city, county and state. But still no officials contacted by the Times knew who gave permission for the shoot.

A spokeswoman for the Coliseum said Wednesday a statement was being prepared.

Stadiums sat empty across the nation as college and professional teams cancelled games in a show of mourning in the aftermath of 9/11. But the period of bereavement apparently was cut short at the Coliseum.

The Coliseum seats, tunnel and entry can be seen in the movie, although the stadium is not identified by name in the 90-minute film.

"I was just in awe that we were at the Coliseum," said one of the film's stars, known as Mr. Marcus.

"I've made movies for about 20 years, and I've done a lot of things, but that one really stands out. ... I mean, who gets to have sex on the Coliseum floor?"

He said the football-themed shoot included some non-explicit scenes in a Coliseum locker room but that footage did not make it into the movie.

No one contacted by the Times acknowledged giving permission for the shoot and the paper was unable to reach the production company, Anabolic Video.

The company's logo is seen on jerseys worn by actors in the film and on banners that are draped like bunting in the stands.

The Coliseum, built as a memorial to World War I veterans, is owned by the state. The national historic landmark has hosted two Summer Olympics. Pope John Paul II celebrated Mass there. And the stadium is where John F. Kennedy accepted the Democratic presidential nomination.

A spokesman for the California attorney general's office told the Times on Tuesday he didn't know if it was illegal to film pornography on state property. Some agencies, including the California Department of Parks and Recreation, ban porn shoots.

Patrick Lynch was general manager of the Coliseum in 2001. He resigned in 2011 and was indicted in March as part of a corruption investigation.

Lynch pleaded guilty to conflict of interest as part of a deal that required him to return nearly $400,000 in alleged kickbacks from a contractor. Former events manager Todd DeStefano pleaded not guilty to charges including bribery, embezzlement and conspiracy. Four other men were also indicted.

But attorney Tony Capozzola called the porn shoot disgusting and said Lynch "would never allow that."

Because of the alleged corruption, the Coliseum Commission voted in May to surrender control of the Coliseum and the Sports Arena to USC.

Two current commissioners, county Supervisors Zev Yaroslavsky and Mark Ridley-Thomas, were on the panel when the movie was shot but neither would talk to the Times.

While they were filming, Mr. Marcus said a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department helicopter flew overhead. The sound of the chopper can be heard in the movie.

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Snow White and The Huntsman

Friday		4:05	7:05	9:35
Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:35
Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:05	
Monday thru Thursday		4:05	7:05	

Kristen Stewart, Chris Hemsworth
Fantasy • Rated PG 13

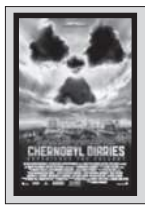
Synopsis
The tale of Snow White is turned on its head with this reimagining starring Kristen Stewart as the fair maiden who has to escape from her fantasy land's Evil Queen (Charlize Theron) with the help of the dashing huntsman who was once ordered to kill her. Rupert Sanders helms from a script by Evan Daugherty. Ian McShane commands the seven dwarves, while the rest are played by Bob Hoskins, Toby Jones, Eddie Marsan, Stephen Graham, Ray Winstone, and Nick Frost.

Men In Black 3

Friday		4:20	7:20	9:45
Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:20	9:45
Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20	
Monday thru Thursday		4:20	7:20	

Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones
Comedy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, and director Barry Sonnenfeld return to the kooky world of the top-secret government agents who protect our planet from hostile aliens in this third entry of the Men in Black film series. This will be the first film in the franchise to be presented in 3D. Flight of the Conchords' Jemaine Clement co-stars as the main baddie, Yaz, with Josh Brolin lending his talents as the younger version of Jones' character.



Chernobyl Diaries

Friday		4:30	7:30	9:30
Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30	9:30
Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30	
Monday thru Thursday		4:30	7:30	

Jesse McCartney, Carey Van Dyke
Horror • Rated R

Battleship

Friday		4:00	7:00	10:00
Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00	10:00
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00	
Monday thru Thursday		4:00	7:00	

Liam Neeson, Taylor Kitsch
Science fiction, War • Rated PG 13

The Dictator

Friday		4:25	7:25	9:40
Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25	9:40
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:25	
Monday thru Thursday		4:25	7:25	

Sacha Baron Cohen, Anna Faris
Comedy • Rated R

Dark Shadows

Friday		4:15	7:15	9:50
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15	9:50
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15	
Monday thru Thursday		4:15	7:15	

Johnny Depp, Helena Bonham Carter
Horror • Rated PG 13

Marvel's The Avengers

Friday		4:10	7:10	9:55
Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:55
Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10	
Monday thru Thursday		4:10	7:10	

Robert Downey, Jr., Chris Evans, Samuel L. Jackson
Action • Rated PG 13

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Mom who left kids behind now wants to make contact

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DearAbby

DEAR ABBY: My parents divorced when I was in third grade, and my sister and I lived with my mother. When I was 16, Mom met a man online, quit her job and moved across the country to be with him. My sister and I begged her to let us finish school first, but she was adamant about moving. She gave us a choice—move with her to another state or move in with our father. We chose the latter.

Since then, my mother has not been a part of my life. She calls occasionally, but never on my birthday or special holidays. I invited her to my wedding, but she didn't attend. When I think of my mother, I associate her with feelings of abandonment and unhappiness.

Mom called me last week, and frankly it was upsetting. I have heard from others how unhappy she is with her life and the choices she made, although she hasn't said it to me directly. I find it painful to hear her say she loves me, because there's a difference between saying it and living it. I have forgiven her, but it doesn't mean I want to sign up for more of that treatment.

Is there a moral obligation to allow her back into my life? I believe you can't help what happens in your childhood, but you can decide how you let it affect you. Or is it OK to stay on the path I have chosen and keep my distance from her?

MORALLY PERPLEXED IN TEXAS

DEAR PERPLEXED: If a closer relationship with your mother would be dangerous for you emotionally, then you shouldn't risk it. It is not your fault that the life she chose didn't turn out to be a happy one for her. After years of being treated with indifference by her, if you choose to keep your distance, I support your decision.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Perhaps I'm a little old-fashioned, but do you think it's acceptable when having a large wedding and reception to hurry your guests away so a smaller group of intimate family and friends can attend a more exclusive reception? Is this now common among new couples?

I'd gladly attend a single open house or reception in the new couple's honor after their honeymoon, when they wouldn't be so rushed. Your thoughts, please.

SOMEWHAT OFFENDED IN KENTUCKY

DEAR SOMEWHAT OFFENDED: No, it is not a trend. To shoo away one's guests so that a private party can be held afterward is rude. It shows lack of consideration for the feelings of one's guests, and it is very poor manners.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am a single mother with three children. Several years ago we bought a puppy. When we got her, we were told if she ever gets lost, she could be located through the chip that had been placed in her. (The breeder said it was just a "shot.") You can also buy a car these days with a global positioning device installed so the car can be located if it is stolen.

The cost for the police to find a missing child has got to be astronomical. Wouldn't it be much cheaper to come up with global positioning chips for our children?

They do it for dogs and cats. When will we make our children safer than we do our pets and our cars?

JUST THINKING IN FLORIDA

DEAR JUST THINKING: You have come up with an interesting concept, and not just one for small children. It could work for members of the military and workers who go abroad to dangerous locations, and also for people suffering from Alzheimer's disease who might wander.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Bono to present Amnesty award to Suu Kyi

DUBLIN (AP)—Bono will present Myanmar opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi with Amnesty International's highest honor when she visits Dublin next month as part of her first international tour in 24 years, the U2 singer and other organizers of an Irish tribute concert announced Wednesday.

Suu Kyi is scheduled to visit Dublin on June 18, a day after collecting her Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo, Norway. Suu Kyi was awarded the Nobel in 1991, and Amnesty's Ambassador of Conscience award in 2009. She was unable to claim either award in person until now because she was under house arrest for 15 of the past 24 years and, even when free, afraid to leave Myanmar in case the country's military junta barred her return.

Bono devoted a series of U2's 2009 concerts to Suu Kyi, demanding her release from house arrest, and unveiled the Amnesty award at one Dublin concert that year. He said the June 18 event would be the first time he's ever met the 66-year-old pro-democracy activist.

"It's so rare to see grace trump military might, and when it happens we should make the most joyful noise we can," Bono said in a prepared statement. "Aung San Suu Kyi's grace and courage have tilted a wobbly world further in the direction of democracy. We all feel we know her, but it will be such a thrill to meet her in person."

Suu Kyi was elected to Parliament in Myanmar, also known as Burma, last month; took her seat May 2; and launched an international tour Tuesday starting in neighboring Thailand. She's also scheduled to address both houses of the British Parliament during her European tour next month.

She is expected to visit Dublin solely to be guest of honor at the concert, called Electric Burma.

Bill Shipsey, an Amnesty official organizing the concert, said others taking part would be actress Vanessa Redgrave, the Riverdance troupe, and folk-rock singer Damien Rice.

Bob Geldof, like Bono an Irish rocker-turned-humanitarian, also will be involved in the concert. Geldof praised Suu Kyi as a "heroine of dignity, integrity, courage and steely moral vigor (who) lost her freedom and her family in order to gain a nation. Ireland is ennobled by her visit."

AP

Myanmar opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi waves after meeting with Myanmar migrant workers in Samut Sakhon Province, Thailand, Wednesday, May 30, 2012.

Madeline Miller wins Orange Prize for Fiction

LONDON (AP)—American Madeline Miller, a classics teacher turned novelist, took home the prestigious Orange Prize for fiction on Wednesday for her debut book, "The Song of Achilles."

The book retells the story of Patroclus and the legendary warrior Achilles from their first meeting as children to their deaths at the siege of Troy.

Joanna Trollope, who chaired the judging panel, described Miller's retelling of the ancient Greek myth as "inventive, passionate, uplifting and different" at the awards ceremony in London's Royal Festival Hall.

Miller—who spent 10 years writing the book while working as a Greek and Latin teacher—said she was "overwhelmed" and "humbled" by the 30,000 pound ($46,000) prize.

Two other Americans had joined Miller on the six-book shortlist for the prize—Cynthia Ozick for "Foreign Bodies" and Ann Patchett for "State of Wonder."

Also on the shortlist were "The Forgotten Waltz" by Ireland's Anne Enright, "Painter of Silence" by British writer Georgina Harding and "Half Blood Blues," a Booker Prize finalist by Canada's Esi Edugyan.

The prize is open to any novel by a woman published in English.

TV exec behind Ellen, Tyra Banks shows dies

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jim Paratore, who developed and steered series including "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" and "The Tyra Banks Show," as a Warner Bros. TV executive, has died. He was 59. Warner Bros. said Wednesday that Paratore suffered a heart attack Tuesday while bicycling in France.

Paratore was Warner Bros. Telepictures Productions president from 1992 to 2006 and executive vice president of Warner Bros. Domestic Television Distribution since 2002.

He built Telepictures Productions into a top producer of syndicated TV and a supplier of prime-time reality shows including "The Bachelor."

Paratore

In 2006, Paratore founded TV production company paraMedia, which had an exclusive deal with the Warner Bros. Television Group. He was an executive producer of DeGeneres' talk show and the "TMZ" TV magazine.

He is survived by his wife, Jill Wickert, and his daughter, Martinique Paratore.

Azerbaijan: 40 arrested in Eurovision terror plot

BAKU, Azerbaijan (AP)—Security services in Azerbaijan say they have arrested 40 suspects and seized weapons as they thwarted a series of planned terror attacks against the Eurovision Song Contest.

Targets included the song contest venue and major hotels housing foreigners, the National Security Ministry said in a statement Wednesday.

Azerbaijan has in recent months reported being the target of terrorist activities planned by groups with ties to Al-Qaida and Iran, and this appears to be most extravagant alleged plot revealed to date.

An oil-rich nation of 9 million people wedged between Russia and Iran, Azerbaijan has nurtured close relations with the United States and played an active role in Western-led counter-terrorist programs. That policy has placed a strain on its ties with Iran, which hosts a sizable ethnic Azeri community.

The statement Wednesday said other plots included plans for an assassination attempt on President Ilham Aliyev in April, as well as attacks on religious pilgrimage sites and police stations.

Officials said 40 people have been arrested. Weapons seized included 13 assault rifles, one machine gun, 12 handguns, three rifles, 3,400 rounds of bullets, 62 hand grenades, and several kilograms of explosives.

The statement provided no details on when the arrests took place.

"The armed group set itself the aim of mounting terrorist attacks in several regions of Azerbaijan, creating a mood of powerlessness and lawlessness, sowing panic, ethnic and religious enmity, disrupting the public peace and damaging Azerbaijan's international image," the statement said.

Edie Falco to star in Manhattan Theatre Club play

NEW YORK (AP)—Edie Falco, Boyd Gaines and Richard Thomas will star in Manhattan Theatre Club's upcoming 2012-2013 season.

The nonprofit Wednesday unveiled three new productions, including a Broadway return for Henrik Ibsen's "An Enemy of the People" with four-time Tony Award winner Gaines and Emmy winner Thomas.

Previews begin Sept. 4 with opening night slated for Sept. 27 at the Samuel J. Friedman Theatre on 47th Street.

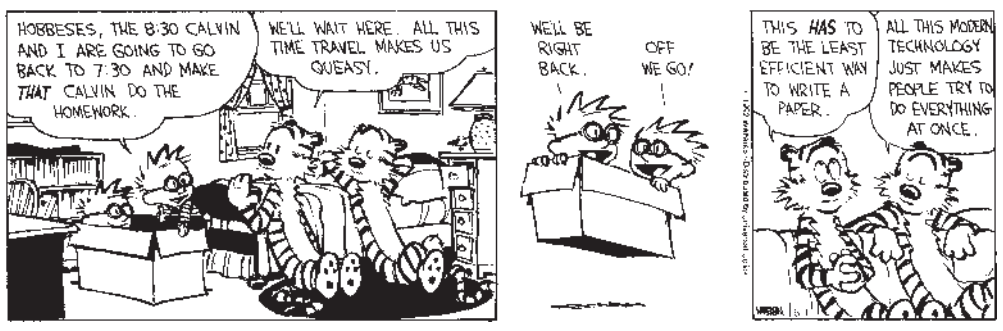
The company also announced two off-Broadway runs: the New York premiere of "Golden Age" by four-time Tony winner Terrence McNally and the world premiere of "The Madrid" by Liz Flahive, starring Falco.

"Golden Age" begins previews Nov. 13 and "The Madrid" starts its run in February. Both will be shown at New York City Center - Stage I on 55th Street.

Pastimes

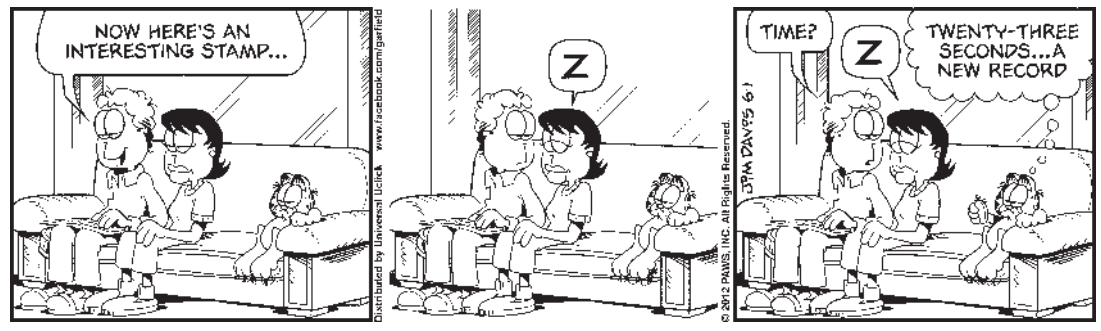
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


HOBBESES, THE 8:30 CALVIN AND I ARE GOING TO GO BACK TO 7:30 AND MAKE THAT CALVIN DO THE HOMEWORK.
WE'LL WAIT HERE. ALL THIS TIME TRAVEL MAKES US QUEASY.
WE'LL BE RIGHT BACK.
OFF WE GO!
THIS HAS TO BE THE LEAST EFFICIENT WAY TO WRITE A PAPER.
ALL THIS MODERN TECHNOLOGY JUST MAKES PEOPLE TRY TO DO EVERYTHING AT ONCE.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

I'M WITH YOU ON SETTING THE CLOCKS FORWARD, DAD.
GOOD MAN.
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO LIVE IN THE FUTURE.
WHY'S THAT?
SO I CAN IMPROVE THE WORLD BY EATING PEANUT BUTTER CUPS.
HOW DOES THAT IMPROVE THE WORLD?
CAN'T HURT.
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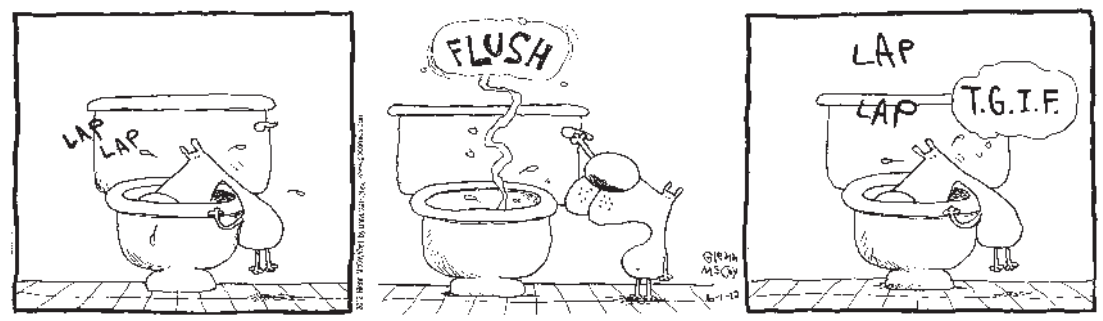
The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

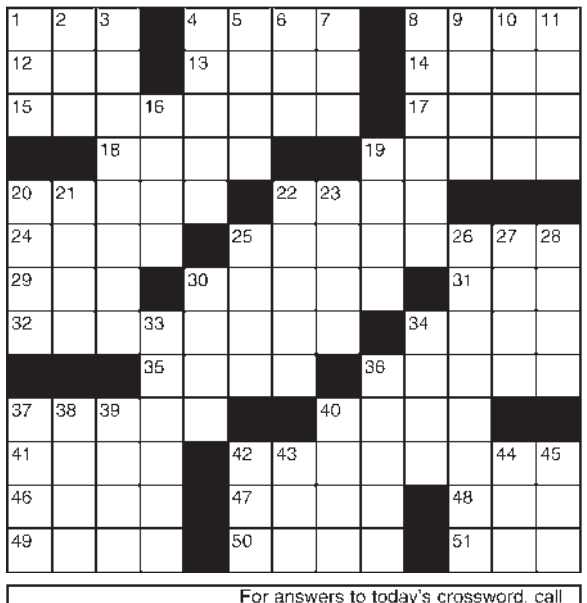
ACROSS
1 Snapshot
4 Dog owner's ordeal
8 Cougar
12 "Le Coq —"
13 Spread selection
14 On
15 Hive honcho
17 Carry on
18 Actress de Matteo
19 Leading man in the theater?
20 "Odyssey" companion piece
22 Competent
24 Massages
25 Slaked
29 Every last crumb
30 Kama follower
31 Before
32 Interrogate
34 Delany or Carvey
35 Reveille's opposite
36 Burdened
37 Houdini or Potter
40 Prima donna
41 Supposed superberry
42 Montreal dweller
46 Galvanizing stuff
47 Catch sight of
48 "Yo!"
49 Rewrite, maybe
50 Information
51 — out a living

DOWN
1 Promptly
2 Debtor's letters
3 Convincing
4 Filleted
5 Goya's "Duchess of —"
6 Ball-bearing item
7 Weeding tool
8 3.26 light-years
9 Hexagonal state
10 Relocate
11 Mimic
16 Historic times
19 Arm bone
20 Baghdad's country
21 Humdinger
22 Cars
23 Swiss capital
25 Witticism
26 Migraine
27 Sea flier
28 Campus bigwig
30 Remain
33 Not lenient
34 Jay's rival
36 Neighbor of Sudan
37 Visibility hindrance
38 Low-pH
39 Hindu princess
40 Cabinet div.
42 Proof abbr.
43 Dos Passos trilogy
44 "A mouse!"
45 Catcher's place

Solution time: 25 mins.

B	O	H	R	■	S	U	P	■	S	A	P	S
A	L	E	E	■	A	S	H	■	T	R	I	O
R	E	A	L	■	N	E	O	■	A	G	E	D
D	O	T	A	G	E	■	E	C	R	U	■	■
■	■	■	P	A	R	A	N	O	R	M	A	L
G	L	A	S	S	■	D	I	P	■	E	G	O
R	I	P	E	■	S	I	X	■	S	N	O	B
I	M	P	■	A	C	E	■	O	U	T	G	O
P	A	R	A	C	H	U	T	E	S	■	■	■
■	■	■	A	L	T	O	■	O	R	P	H	A	N
S	N	I	P	■	L	A	W	■	E	U	R	O
P	O	S	H	■	A	L	E	■	C	L	E	O
A	R	E	A	■	R	I	D	■	T	A	S	K

Yesterday's answer 6-1



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99c per minute. touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Alanis Morissette, 38; Rene Auberjonois, 72; Morgan Freeman, 75; Andy Griffith, 86.

Happy Birthday: You'll get ahead if you promote your talents. Utilize your skills uniquely and the payoff will be sensational. Put more effort into settlements, legalities, contracts and investments and you will get the return you are looking for. Speak up and be bold. Add your own personal touch. Your numbers are 9, 14, 17, 21, 36, 39, 45.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Partnerships are highlighted. Whether it's someone you work with or someone you love, you can get a better understanding of the direction you are taking together. Changes to the way you earn your living will involve hard work and high returns. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Not everyone will have your best interests at heart. Take care of your work, refusing to leave anything in the hands of someone who may not give the same attention to detail you would. Put in extra hours if necessary. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Jump into the spotlight. Take any opportunity to discuss your plans and present what you have to offer. Your keen sense of what works will separate you from anyone trying to outsmart you. Love is in the stars. ✪✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Divulging secret information will lead to bad feelings. Make sure you don't give anyone the wrong impression or lead someone on who may have a personal interest in you. Take care of what needs to be done without nagging or complaining. ✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You are in control, so don't give in to demands. You set the rules and lay out the game plan. Romance or socializing should be planned for the evening hours. A creative twist to the way you do things will bring added interest. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Observation will be your greatest resource. Keeping your thoughts and plans to yourself will help you avoid opposition. A creative approach to a job you take on will lead to a chance to develop a talent you enjoy using. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): You will surprise everyone with your enthusiasm and your original ideas. Social or networking events will allow you to win the support of people who can contribute to your advancement. Love, travel and adventure are highlighted. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Stick close to home or to the people you know and trust. Back away from anyone trying to convince you to spend money on something you aren't sure you need or want. Give your creativity and imagination license to develop something new. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): If you are anything but fair, you will meet with opposition. If you aren't careful, problems will develop while traveling or dealing with people who have different beliefs. Stick close to home and to those who share your ideals. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Don't leave anything undone. Clear your mind so you can enjoy your downtime. The ideas you share and the support you get from friends or family will lead to an interesting new project. A financial deal may need a little push. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): A contract, settlement or investment will change your future. Don't let a poor relationship with someone ruin your day. Focus on the people you most enjoy spending time with and walk away from anyone who tries to manipulate you. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Stick to the truth. Do whatever it takes to get along with friends and family. Aggressive behavior must not be tolerated. Take on a challenge that will help you defuse any pent-up anger or nervousness you are feeling. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are gifted, original and persistent. You pursue your goals aggressively.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

6	2				1	8		
1		5			9			
	8		6					4
		3					6	9
4	1					5		
9					5		8	
			8			6		7
		2	9				3	5

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 6/01

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

8	3	7	1	2	5	9	4	6
6	9	4	7	3	8	1	2	5
1	5	2	6	4	9	8	7	3
3	2	6	5	9	4	7	1	8
9	8	1	2	7	3	6	5	4
4	7	5	8	6	1	2	3	9
7	6	3	9	5	2	4	8	1
5	1	9	4	8	7	3	6	2
2	4	8	3	1	6	5	9	7

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/31

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

FRIED CHICKEN **Solution: 8 letters**

T	D	W	N	B	W	H	I	T	E	S	S	S	K	S
R	E	E	A	O	I	B	R	E	A	S	T	K	O	S
A	T	M	I	F	I	S	S	G	G	E	E	I	O	O
D	S	I	P	R	F	N	C	G	N	I	W	N	C	A
I	A	X	O	E	F	L	O	U	R	E	D	O	R	K
T	O	T	Y	A	R	T	E	N	I	U	S	E	G	D
I	R	U	Y	T	S	A	T	S	N	T	T	N	A	O
O	G	R	A	V	Y	Ⓞ	T	L	I	T	I	L	R	O
N	T	E	K	C	Ⓘ	H	C	U	A	Y	A	A	E	G
S	B	N	R	Ⓛ	E	C	R	B	R	S	H	R	P	O
H	U	U	Ⓢ	A	C	N	I	F	D	E	E	D	P	L
D	S	G	T	R	I	U	S	E	A	S	O	N	E	D
T	N	I	A	T	R	R	P	I	E	C	E	S	P	E
K	R	A	D	R	E	C	O	L	E	S	L	A	W	N
D	E	T	A	N	I	R	A	M	E	A	T	A	O	C

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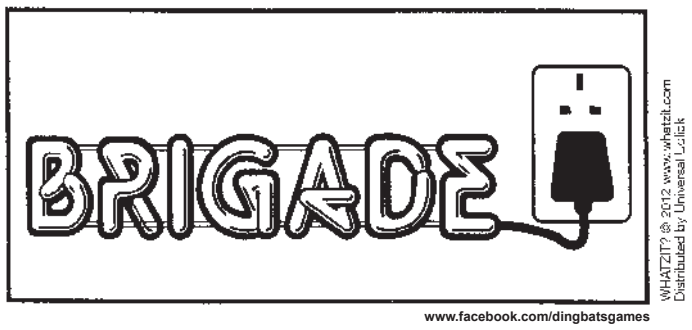

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- Assists in the development, implementation and evaluation of dietary policies and procedures.
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Heat survive Rondo's huge night, win in OT

MIAMI (AP)—Back and forth they went in overtime, Rajon Rondo and the Miami Heat.

Rondo scored. The Heat answered. Then again. And again.

Eventually, Rondo missed, one of the rare times he didn't deliver on an unforgettable night. Moments later, the Heat took the lead for good, finally able to close out a wild Game 2 of the Eastern Conference finals.

LeBron James scored 34 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, Dwyane Wade scored eight of his 23 points in the extra session and the Heat rallied from 15 down to beat the Boston Celtics 115-111 on Wednesday night—taking a 2-0 lead in the series by pulling off the biggest comeback in franchise postseason history.

"One of the best games I've played in, win or lose," Heat forward Shane Battier said. "It's easier said when you win—but it's unbelievable."

Rondo scored all 12 of Boston's points in overtime, capping a 44-point, 10-assist, eight-rebound effort in which he played every second of a 53-minute game. The Heat expected Boston's best—and the Celtics didn't disappoint, yet still head home for Game 3 on Friday night facing a deficit no Boston team has rallied from to win a series since 1969.

"Listen, we played terrific," Celtics coach Doc Rivers said. "I told them, we played extremely hard. I thought we played with great heart tonight, but I didn't think we played smart all the time. And there's things we can absolutely fix, and we'll do that. We'll be ready for Friday."

Mario Chalmers scored 22 for the Heat, who took 47 free throws—24 by James—to Boston's 29.

"This group had resolve," Wade said of the Celtics. "They came out and played a great game. It was physical early. They brought the game to us. That can't happen. We used our crowd and the energy to get back into the game and we had to play better."

Paul Pierce scored 21 points, Kevin Garnett added 18 and Ray Allen 13 for Boston. Rondo finished 16 of 24 from the floor, 10 of 12 from the foul line and made both his 3-point tries.

"He showed why he's one of the best point guards in this league," Chalmers said.

Rondo shrugged off his night.

"We lost," Rondo said. "Simple as that."

Allen's 3-pointer with 34.3 seconds left tied the game at 99-all. James missed two shots, first a layup—he got the rebound of his own miss—and then a jumper on the final possession of regulation, and to overtime they went.

"We had to do it the tough way," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said.

The Heat had come back to win from 14 points down in playoff games twice before, first in Game 6 of the 2006 NBA finals—their title clincher—and again last season against Philadelphia.

And this one was slipping away, more than once. James missed two free throws 21 seconds into overtime, and Miami looked in trouble, especially since Rondo was simply taking over.

When Rondo missed a layup—he thought he was fouled, and the Celtics agreed—with 1:33 left, Miami took advantage, with Udonis Haslem getting a dunk to put the Heat up 105-103. And after a turnover on the next Boston possession, Wade drove the lane, hit the deck and watched as his layup bounced on the rim and dropped through.

Garnett stood over Wade and glared, to no avail. Wade hit the free throw, and Miami was up 110-105 with 59.7 seconds left. By then, the no-call on Rondo had the Celtics seething.

"It was obvious," Rondo said.

Added Allen: "We all thought he got hit. I'll say it. He did, but what can you do about it?"

Miami was down by 15 in the first half and by as many as 11 in the third quarter, before a pair of 3-pointers by James started a comeback. Wade made consecutive jumpers midway through the third to shake off a slow start to his night and get the Heat within three both times, and the 2006 NBA finals MVP set up Haslem for a three-point play with 2:55 left that gave Miami its first lead since the opening minutes, 73-71.

As Haslem's shot dropped, Wade spun at midcourt and punched the air. More highlights followed.

Miami's lead got to as much as seven in the third after James blocked Pierce's shot near the rim, sending the ball high into the air and starting a sequence that was capped by a three-point play from Wade, pushing the margin to 78-71. It capped a 12-0 run for the Heat, who took an 81-75 lead into the fourth.

It was the fifth straight game where Miami outscored its opponent by double-digits in the third quarter. In each of the previous four of those outings, Miami never trailed in the final period.

That streak ended in this one.

"It's been very key for us, whether we're up, whether we're down, to win that quarter," Wade said. "But in the fourth quarter, even when we were down, we felt like we were close enough. ... We never felt like we were out of it."

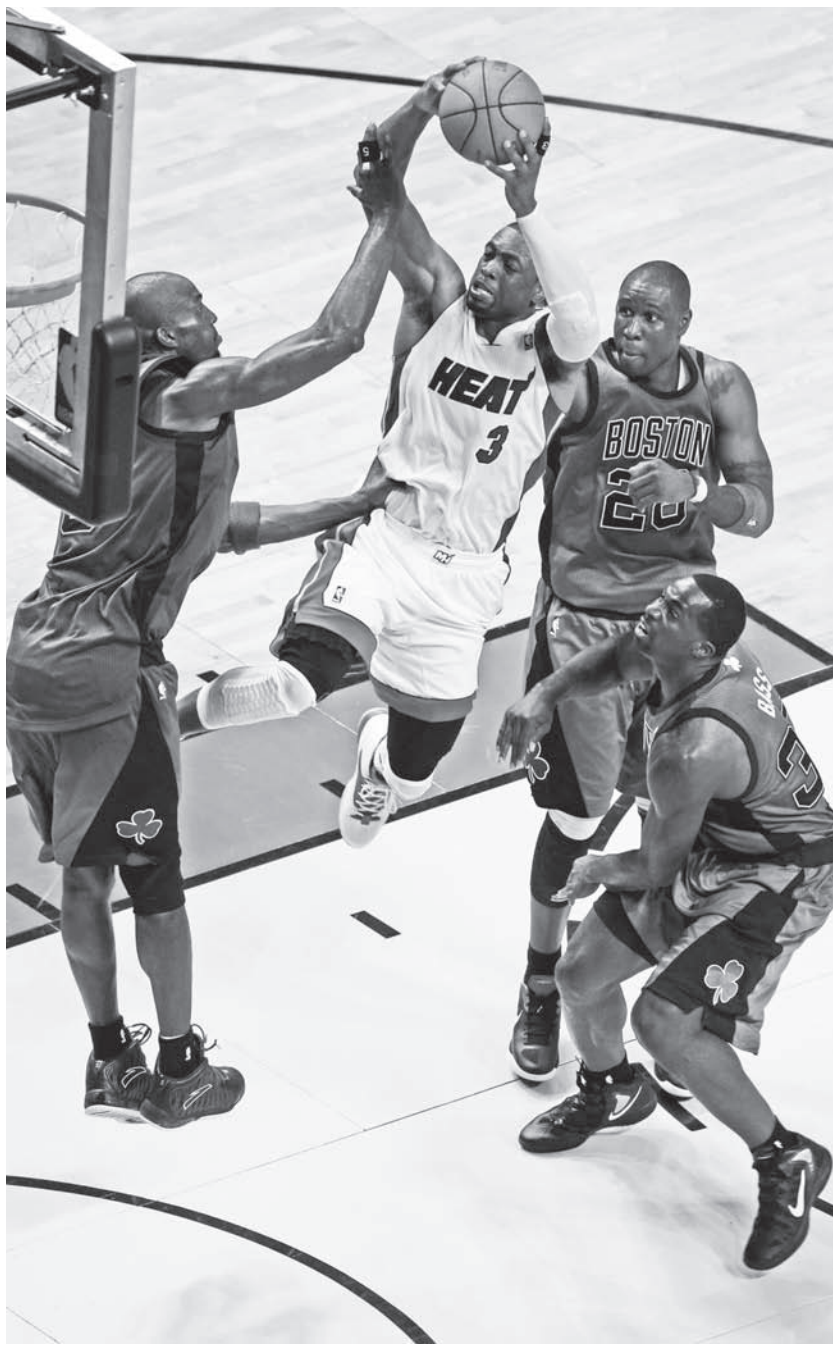
They weren't out of it—but a call that Boston argued against played a big role in the Celtics getting the lead back.

James stole the ball from Rondo early in the fourth, drove down the court and got wrapped up by Pietrus, who was assessed a clear-path foul, meaning Miami got two free throws and the ball. James missed both foul shots, Mike Miller missed a 3-pointer later in the possession, and the lead stayed at 85-81.

Barely a minute later, it was gone. Pietrus hit a 3-pointer, Rondo followed with a steal and layup and Boston led 86-85. The Celtics led by five with 3:50 left after a jumper by Pierce, and the Celtics looked to be in control.

It was temporary. The Heat scored the next nine points, Haslem's jumper with 1:08 remaining put Miami up 98-94. So of course, back came Boston—Allen's 3-pointer tying the game a few moments after Pierce fouled out.

"Rondo was absolutely amazing," James said. "The performance he put on tonight will go down in the record books. ... It was a battle, and we never felt like we won the game or lost the game when there were zeros on the clock."



Miami Heat's Dwyane Wade (3) drives to the basket past Boston Celtics' Kevin Garnett (5), Brandon Nass (30) and Mickael Pietrus (28) of France, during overtime in Game 2 in their NBA basketball Eastern Conference finals playoffs series, Wednesday, May 30, 2012, in Miami.

AP

Hornets win draft lottery, will pick No. 1 *in* NBA

NEW YORK (AP)—New owner, and now a new star player. The future suddenly looks bright for the New Orleans Hornets.

Meanwhile, it was yet another loss—in a historic season full of them—for Michael Jordan and the Charlotte Bobcats.

The Hornets, recently sold by the NBA to Saints owner Tom Benson, won the NBA's draft lottery Wednesday and the No. 1 pick overall—which they almost certainly will use to pick Kentucky star Anthony Davis.

At least that's what the consensus college player of the year is expecting. Moments after the Hornets won the lottery, Davis said he was looking forward to playing professionally in the place where he led the Wildcats to a national championship in April.

The good news for the Hornets comes after a difficult season in which they traded All-Star Chris Paul and a couple of years in limbo where they couldn't do much to upgrade the roster while the league was looking for a buyer.

"Just a first step for us to winning it all," Benson said in a TV interview after the lottery.

The Hornets moved up from the fourth spot, where they had a 13.7 percent chance, to earn the pick.

"Everything was surreal once they announced the fourth pick," said Hornets coach Monty Williams, who represented the team on stage. "I said 'This is pretty cool.' I knew my wife and kids were home praying that things would go well and they did."

The Bobcats, after going 7-59 for the worst winning percentage in NBA history, fell to the No. 2 pick. Washington will pick third and Cleveland fell one spot to fourth.

Charlotte had a 25 percent chance of grabbing the No. 1 pick, but instead will have to take the best player after Davis, possibly his teammate, Michael Kidd-Gilchrist.

The team with the worst record hasn't won since Orlando drafted Dwight Howard in 2004.

"We will still take the best player available and when you win seven games you have a lot of holes," Bobcats general manager Rich Cho said. "From a competitive standpoint and for anyone who has played sports or been competitive, you want to win and be No. 1. We know we're still going to get a good player."

Cho and team vice chairman Curtis Polk said they hadn't heard from Jordan, the Bobcats owner.

"Being No. 2 isn't terrible. We'll be fine," Polk said.

The league bought the Hornets from owner George Shinn in December 2010 and the sale to Benson was completed in April. The NBA was criticized for the conflict of interest of a league owning a franchise, particularly when Commissioner David Stern blocked a trade that would have sent Paul to the Lakers in December, then approved another that landed Paul with the Clippers.

The ownership uncertainty hindered the Hornets, but they were in a celebrating mood Wednesday after earning the No. 1 pick for the first time since 1991, when they were still in Charlotte and took Larry Johnson.

General manager Dell Demps said he pumped his fist in the room where the drawing took place after seeing that the balls had been drawn in the Hornets' favor.

"When our combination came up, it was an exciting feeling," he said. "I got an incredible rush. ... We knew what the odds were. We hoped for the best. It was nothing we could control. We're just happy."

The Hornets, who went 21-45, also have the No. 10 pick. They played hard at the end of the season even as it reduced their lottery odds, winning eight of their final 13 games with a young roster.

"Obviously, we're very excited," Demps said. "This is a great day for the city of New Orleans, our fans. ... This is the start of a new beginning."

Though they didn't officially say it, it's expected to start with Davis, one of the most dominant defensive college players in years who was Most Outstanding Player of the Final Four even as he went 1 for 10 from the field in the championship game. He blocked a record-tying six shots and had 16 rebounds and three steals in the Wildcats' 67-59 victory over Kansas.

"Davis is not LeBron. He's not Tim (Duncan). But they were young once and Tim had four years of college," Williams said.

The Nets were the other big loser when they stayed in the No. 6 spot. They owed their pick to Portland for this season's Gerald Wallace trade unless they moved into the top three.

The Cavs beat the odds last year and moved up to take Kyrie Irving, the eventual Rookie of the Year, and tried to follow the same formula. Nick Gilbert, the 15-year-old son of owner Dan Gilbert, was back on the podium in his bow tie, and the Cavs' traveling party that included Dan Gilbert, and former Browns quarterback Bernie Kosar and current Browns players Josh Cribbs and Joe Haden sported the same dress.

But there was no repeat, as the Cavs went backward this time.

"Still feel very good about (number)4 pick," Dan Gilbert wrote on his Twitter page. "We are getting a great player there and good additions w/our other 3 picks. I believe."

Sacramento rounds out the top five of the draft, to be held June 28 in Newark, N.J.

The Golden State Warriors stayed at No. 7, meaning they get to keep their pick instead of having to trade it to Utah. The Trail Blazers will also have two lottery selections, the Nets' and their own at No. 11.

Mariners use 2 8-run innings to rout Rangers

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Justin Smoak hit two three-run homers against his former team and the Seattle Mariners used a pair of early eight-run innings to rout the Texas Rangers for the second straight game, winning 21-8 Wednesday night.

Smoak had three hits to go with his career high for RBIs as Seattle reached double digits in back-to-back games against the AL West leaders. Jesus Montero homered among his three hits and drove in four runs, and Kyle Seager had four hits and two RBIs. Every Seattle starter had at least one hit in amassing 20 overall.

Dustin Ackley also had a three-run homer in support of former Rangers minor league prospect Blake Beavan (3-4). Rangers starter Derek Holland (4-4) gave up eight hits, eight runs and two walks in 1 2-3 innings.

Seattle had lost five in a row before beating Texas 10-3 Tuesday night. They scored eight runs in the second and third innings en route to scoring the second-most runs in club history, equaling a 21-9 victory against the Los Angeles Angels on Sept. 30, 2000.

Coincidentally, that was the same day the Rangers gave up the most runs in club history, a 23-2 loss at Oakland.

AP

Seattle Mariners' Justin Smoak, left, is congratulated by Jesus Montero and Kyle Seager, center rear, as Texas Rangers catcher Mike Napoli, right, watches following Smoak's three-run home run off of Rangers relief pitcher Yoshinori Tateyama in the third inning of baseball game on Wednesday, May 30, 2012, in Arlington, Texas.

White Sox 4, Rays 3

In St. Petersburg, Alexei Ramirez drove in two runs as Chicago extended its best win streak of the season to eight games with a victory over Tampa Bay.

Dayan Viciedo had a run-scoring single and Ramirez hit a sacrifice fly to help Chicago take a 3-1 lead in the third. Ramirez made it 4-1 with an RBI double in the fifth.

Luke Scott and Carlos Pena homered for the Rays, who have dropped nine of 13 at home.

Tampa Bay right-hander Alex Cobb (2-1) took the loss, allowing four runs on nine hits with four strikeouts and a walk.

Nate Jones (3-0) got the win and Addison Reed worked the ninth for his sixth save.

Blue Jays 4, Orioles 1

In Toronto, Edwin Encarnacion hit one of Toronto's four solo home runs, leading the Blue Jays to a three-game sweep of Baltimore.

Rajai Davis, Brett Lawrie and Colby Rasmus also homered for the Blue Jays.

Brandon Morrow suffered a bruised right shin when he was struck by Wilson Betemit's liner in the seventh, hopping around the mound in pain. X-rays were negative and he is day-to-day. Morrow (6-3) gave up one run and four hits over 6 1-3 innings. He walked two and struck out eight.

Casey Janssen finished in the ninth for his fifth save in six opportunities.

Jason Hammel (6-2) allowed four runs and nine hits in 6 2-3 innings for the Orioles.

Yankees 6, Angels 5

In Anaheim, Curtis Granderson and Robinson Cano homered during New York's five-run third inning, helping the Yankees end Los Angeles' eight-game win streak.

Raul Ibanez tripled off the center field wall and scored the tiebreaking run on Nick Swisher's sixth-inning flyout as the Yankees avoided a sweep after wasting a four-run lead.

Mark Trumbo homered in a fourth straight game and drove in three runs for the Angels.

Hisanori Takahashi (0-2) gave up Ibanez's triple after Ervin Santana yielded six hits and five runs over five innings for the Angels, who hadn't lost since May 21.

Ivan Nova (6-2) worked six-plus innings for New York, allowing eight hits and three walks.

Royals 6, Indians 3

In Cleveland, Kansas City scored its first five runs with two outs in a win over Cleveland.

Bruce Chen (4-5) held the Indians scoreless after giving up three runs in the second. Alex Gordon, Johnny Giavotella, Mike Moustakas, Jeff Francoeur and Brayan Pena had run-scoring hits for Kansas City, which has won four of its last six to finish a nine-game road trip at 5-4.

Chen worked the first five innings before Tim Collins, Aaron Crow, Jose Mijares and Jonathan Broxton pitched scoreless ball over the final four. Broxton earned his 11th save.

Jeanmar Gomez (3-4) gave up five runs in five innings for Cleveland.

Twins 4, Athletics 0

In Minneapolis, Francisco Liriano tossed six shutout innings in his return to Minnesota's rotation, sending Oakland to its eighth straight loss.

Liriano (1-5) retired the last 11 batters he faced and struck out nine, the most this season by any Twins pitcher. He allowed only two walks with a double and two singles against the worst-hitting team in the majors that brought a brutal .212 batting average into the game.

Josh Willingham had an RBI single and a two-run homer, roughly 15 hours after his three-run shot in the ninth gave the Twins a dramatic win the night before.

Tyson Ross (2-6) lasted only five innings for the A's, who have lost 12 of their last 15.

Red Sox 6, Tigers 4

In Boston, David Ortiz and Will Middlebrooks each hit two-run homers, Kevin Youkilis had a solo shot and surging Boston beat Detroit for its 14th win in 19 games.

Miguel Cabrera went 4 for 5 with three doubles and drove in a run for Detroit, which has dropped the first three of a four-game series at Fenway Park.

Adrian Gonzalez had two doubles for Boston, his second breaking a 4-4 tie in the seventh.

Matt Albers (1-0) gave up a game-tying hit, but retired one batter to get the win. Alfredo Aceves collected his 13th save in 16 chances.

Octavio Dotel (1-2) took the loss.

Nationals 3, Marlins 1

In Miami, Anibal Sanchez allowed only an unearned run in seven innings to remain unbeaten in 19 starts against Washington, helping the Miami Marlins beat the Nationals to break the club record for victories in a month.

The Marlins are 20-8 since May 1, best in major league baseball, and they're six games above .500 for the first time since last June 4.

Greg Dobbs, pinch-hitting for Sanchez, drove in the run that put Miami ahead to stay with a sacrifice fly in the seventh. Hanley Ramirez hit his eighth homer leading off the eighth.

Sanchez (3-3) allowed only three hits and one walk and lowered his ERA to 2.56.

Edwin Jackson (1-3) allowed only two runs, one earned, in 6 2-3 innings.

Braves 5, Cardinals 4

In Atlanta, Dan Uggla hit a three-run homer, Michael Bourn also hit a home run and the Braves ended their longest losing streak in more than two years, holding off the Cardinals after eight straight losses.

Bourn led off the bottom of the first inning with his fifth homer of the season, tying a career high. Uggla made it 4-0 in the third, hitting one into the seats in left-center field.

Randall Delgado (3-5) worked into the sixth, allowing three runs, and the Cardinals closed within a run in the seventh on Yadier Molina's third RBI of the night, a run-scoring single. Molina went 4-for-4, including a solo homer. But Craig Kimbrel got the final three outs for his 14th save in 15 chances.

Jake Westbook (4-4) took the loss.

Cubs 5, Padres 3

In Chicago, Alfonso Soriano homered, Jeff Samardzija struck out eight in seven innings and the Cubs beat the Padres.

Soriano hit a solo homer to center field in the sixth. After going homerless in his first 30 games this season, Soriano has seven home runs in his last 13 games.

Samardzija (5-3) allowed eight hits and was one strikeout from tying his career high. He departed after Will Venable's RBI triple with no outs in the eighth. Shawn Camp kept the lead intact, getting Carlos Quentin on a fly to left to end the inning.

James Russell got the last two outs for his first career save.

Quentin homered and had three hits for San Diego. His drive on the first pitch of the fifth was his first home run as a Padre.

Mets 6, Phillies 3

In New York, Jeremy Hefner earned his first victory in the majors, highlighting the occasion by homering for his first big league hit as the Mets beat the Phillies.

The 26-year-old rookie became the first major league pitcher to hit his first homer in his first win since 2002, when Dennis Tankersley did it with San Diego, STATS LLC said.

Pinch-hitter Scott Hairston had a two-run homer and newcomer Omar Quintanilla doubled twice and singled to help New York win for the fourth time in five games. After a storm delay of 64 minutes in the eighth inning, the Mets improved to 6-2 against Philadelphia this year.

Reds 8, Pirates 1

In Pittsburgh, Jay Bruce had three hits, including a pair of doubles, Todd Frazier drove in two runs to cap an eventful day and the Reds cruised by the Pirates.

Homer Bailey (4-3) gave up one run on four hits, walking one and striking out four while pitching his second career complete game.

Frazier doubled and tripled in his first two at-bats hours less than a day after saving a Pittsburgh restaurant-goer from choking on a piece of steak by giving him the Heimlich maneuver.

Charlie Morton (2-6) struggled with his trademark sinker and the Reds took advantage by knocking him around soggy PNC Park following a nearly 2-hour rain delay.

Brewers 2, Dodgers 1

In Los Angeles, Ryan Braun hit a two-run homer, getting back at Dodgers fans who booed his every move and leading the Brewers to a victory over Los Angeles.

Mike Fiers (1-0) allowed a run and five hits in seven innings, striking out three and walking none in his first major league start and third appearance after being recalled from Triple-A Nashville. The 26-year-old right-hander gave up his only run when Andre Ethier doubled home Ivan De Jesus in the sixth for his NL-leading 43rd RBI.

Braun, who beat out Dodgers center fielder Matt Kemp for NL MVP last season, homered in the first inning.

Kemp returned to the lineup after he was activated from the 15-day disabled list. He had missed 13 games because of a left hamstring strain. The All-Star center fielder had one hit in four at-bats.

Giants 3, Diamondbacks 1

In San Francisco, Melky Cabrera got his 50th hit of the month to spark the go-ahead rally and Buster Posey drove in a pair of runs to lead the Giants to a victory over the Diamondbacks.

Posey drove in Cabrera with an RBI double in the sixth inning to tie the game and followed Cabrera's single in the eighth with a sacrifice fly that scored Ryan Theriot to make it 2-1 and help the Giants win for the 12th time in 18 games.

Cabrera finished with three hits to pass Willie Mays for the second most productive month in San Francisco history—one shy of the record set by Randy Winn in September 2005. The Giants have one game left this month.

Venus Williams joins Serena on sideline in Paris

PARIS (AP)— Used to be that Venus Williams was the one who was highly ranked, the one considered a title contender, the one who would dominate foes so thoroughly that matches would be tidily wrapped up in an hour.

Now 31, and figuring out from day to day how to handle an illness that saps her strength, Williams was on the wrong end of a lopsided 60-minute defeat in the second round of the French Open on Wednesday.

Looking glum and lacking the verve that carried her to seven Grand Slam titles, Williams barely put up any resistance and lost 6-2, 6-3 to No. 3-seeded Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland at Roland Garros. Coming a day after her younger sister Serena was stunned in the first round by 111th-ranked Virginie Razzano of France, the early exit marked the first time in 43 major tournaments with both in the field that neither Williams got to the third round.

"I felt like I played," Williams said after making a hard-to-fathom 33 unforced errors, 27 more than Radwanska. "That pretty much sums it up."

This one was not exactly an out-of-nowhere upset, considering that Williams is ranked 53rd now, never has been as good on clay as on other surfaces, lost to Radwanska 6-4, 6-1 two months ago, and is learning how to be a professional athlete with Sjogren's syndrome, an autoimmune disease that can cause fatigue and joint pain.

Still, the meek way Williams departed was striking, considering that she has been ranked No. 1, has appeared in 14 major finals to Radwanska's zero, and from 2008-10 won 10 of the 11 sets the two played against each other.

"I don't know if I ever asked myself, 'Why me?' I mean, obviously it's frustrating at times. I don't know if there's anything mental more I can do at this point, but there's a lot of stages to go through with this kind of thing," said Williams, whose fastest-in-the-game serve was broken five times Wednesday. "There's a lot of people who have it a lot worse than I do. I'm still playing a professional sport, so I have to be very positive. And I'm going to have ups and downs. I haven't gotten to the 'Why me?' yet. I hope I never get to the 'Why me?' I'm not allowed to feel sorry for myself."

It's hard to know, however, how much energy she'll have from one day to the next.

Whenever the alarm goes off, Williams starts to find out what the next 24 hours will be like.

"Every morning is different. Some mornings, I don't feel great, then it's a better day than I thought it was going to be. I can't automatically be discouraged. When I wake up, I just have to see how it goes. Sometimes I get a second wind," she explained. "It's just so hard to know."

AP

USA's Venus Williams reacts as she plays Poland's Agnieszka Radwanska during their second round match in the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Williams revealed her diagnosis in late August at the U.S. Open, when she withdrew before her second-round match. She skipped the Australian Open in January, before returning to the tour in March in a bid to earn a berth on the U.S Olympic team. Spots are awarded based on rankings—the top 56 get in automatically, with a maximum of four per country, so Williams should be OK.

"This tournament, for me, was all about getting to the Olympics, as I have said a couple million times," she said. "If that happens for me, and I think the chances are good, then I come out a victor. So that's why I was here."

At changeovers, Williams would slink to the sideline, then sit on her green bench with hands clasped, staring straight ahead, expressionless and motionless.

She was far more animated afterward, laughing often while discussing her condition and graciously complimenting the play of Radwanska, a 23-year-old who is coming into her own this season.

"Of course, when I saw the draw, I wasn't very happy, because Venus as a second-round opponent, it's not easy," Radwanska said. "Maybe she just had a bad day here."

While never advancing past the quarterfinals at a Grand Slam tournament, Radwanska has shown signs of being ready for a major breakthrough, with three lesser titles and a tour-high 38 victories in 2012. Of her seven losses, six were against No. 1-ranked Victoria Azarenka.

On an easy day for the top-seeded players, Azarenka breezed into the third round with a 6-1, 6-1 victory over Dinah Pfizenmaier of Germany 6-1, 6-1, while the No. 1 man, Novak Djokovic, extended his Grand Slam winning streak to 23 matches by beating Blaz Kavcic of Slovenia 6-0, 6-4, 6-4.

"Being No. 1 is a difficult job, because everybody want to catch you, everybody want to move you from the spot," said Azarenka, pushed to three sets in the first round. "Nothing is going to come easy just because you're No. 1."

For years, Roger Federer managed to make things look easy at the top. Now No. 3, he went through a bit of a glitch and dropped a set Wednesday before earning his record-breaking 234th Grand Slam match victory, 6-3, 6-2, 6-7 (6), 6-3 against 92nd-ranked Adrian Ungur of Romania.

"I have been around for so long that, even though I expect myself to win, I can still manage to do that," said Federer, on course for a semifinal showdown with Djokovic. "Whereas in the beginning, when you think you're good but you're maybe not that good yet, you get many more surprise losses."

Before rain cut play short in the evening, all 10 seeded men whose matches ended won, including No. 9 Juan Martin del Potro, the 2009 U.S. Open champion, who acknowledged his bandaged left knee is a "constant bother."

Four seeded women lost, including No. 8 Marion Bartoli of France, the runner-up to Williams in the 2007 Wimbledon final, when the American was near the height of her powers.

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Tan Holdings still unbeaten in inter-group

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A Tan Holdings FC striker, right, is seen here ramming into a KFAS defender during an inter-group play last month at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Tan Holdings FC notched a win and a draw in Week 12 of the 2012 NMIFA Men's Spring League to remain undefeated in the inter-group play of the nine-team competition.

Tan Holdings' latest win was at the expense of SKY, 5-1, last Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field. Jun Jie Cui scored a hat-trick against SKY to improve Tan Holdings' win-draw-loss record to 3-2-0. Kwok Pun Wong and Joe Miller also made it to the scoreboard in last weekend's tournament, while SKY's lone goal came from Xu Zheng.

Cui broke the ice for Tan Holdings, nailing his first goal in the 22nd minute and then seven minutes later, he eluded his defenders anew for his second goal.

Neither team scored after Cui's second goal and it took awhile before Tan Holdings found the back of the net anew in the second half, but the goals came in streaks. Wong ended Tan Holding's silence with a goal in the 63rd minute, followed by Miller two minutes later, while Cui completed his hat-trick with a goal in the 69th minute.

SKY, which has yet to win in the inter-group play with its two losses and one draw, avoided a shutout loss when Zheng scored five minutes before the game wrapped up.

Before beating SKY, Tan Holdings came from a 1-1 draw against Paire FC on May 23. Mohamad Amzad Hossain Khan nailed the lone goal for Tan Holdings midway in the first half, while Zhi Peng Lin saved Paire from a loss when he scored the equalizer in the 89th minute.

The draw against Tan Holdings was Paire's second. The Trey Dunn-captained squad also has one win and no loss in the inter-group, which featured the four teams in Group A and five in Group B.

MPU 1, Paire 1

Paire had its third draw last Sunday as it tied MP United, 1-1.

Ichitaro Faisao put Paire in the scoreboard first with his goal in the 27th minute and his team kept the driver's seat at halftime and until the first few minutes of the second half.

Four minutes into the final half, Jehn Joyner broke lose from his defenders to force the deadlock.

The draw against Paire was the second for MP United, which is winless and has two losses.

Matansa 6, Inter Godfather's 0

In the final game last Sunday, Matansa FC stunned Inter Godfather's, 6-0.

Kamrul led Matansa's big win with his twin goals, while Ho Jin Woo, Hyung Jin Kim, Bir Tamang, and Dhiraj Chhetri added one each.

Matansa improved to a 2-1-0 record, while Inter fell to a 1-0-2 card.

Kamrul and company started the game slow with the former giving Matansa its lone goal in the first half (23rd minute) for a 1-0 halftime lead. Then in the second half, Matansa's offense heated up with Woo scoring in the 60th minute and Kamrul getting his second goal in the 75th. Matansa's last three goals were made in a span of three minutes with Kim nailing one in the 81st, Tamang firing in the 83rd, and Chhetri scoring in the 84th.

Camacho tops May tourney

L.J. Camacho won the Refaluwasch Golf Association May Ace of the Month Tournament held last May 20 at the Mariana Country Club in Marpi.

The potential CNMI national golf team member dominated the course with a combined score of 178. He registered a 70 during the qualifier earlier this month and fired a 78 during the May Ace.

Camacho now joins earlier qualifiers for RGA's yearned Ace of Aces championship, who are Ki Soo Kim, Tony Rogolifoi, Jordon Kosam, and RGA president Joe Saures.

RGA's June qualifier is scheduled for this Sunday, June 3, at the Kingfisher Golf Links in Talofofo. For more information, contact Jess Wabol 288-1129 or Jordon Kosam at 483-4506. ***(RGA)***

MP UNITED

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Also part of the five-time champion squad are Enrico Del Rosario, Kennedy Izuka, Jordan Butcher-Wade, Sam Soledad, Julian Pellegrino, John Masga, Greg Sablan, Jeong Ho Kim, and Brian Lee.

MP United completed the two round-robin season with a 10-0-0 win-draw-loss card, posted a whopping 120 goals, and allowed only three goals. It scored in double digits in seven of their 10 games with their most goals (16) logged on May 12 against Tan Holdings FC.

"The perfect season of MPU U15 Silver is a product of our hard work, sacrifices and team work. Before every season starts, we always set target/goals and I can proudly say we hit it (120 goals in 10 games). All the things we worked on during the training season, practice, and team bonding really helped us a lot," Del Rosario said.

"As for the next season, I can say we will have a great chance since most of the boys will still be eligible for the age group and we may have some additional players. The team will continue training during the summer, as we are holding a MPU Summer Soccer Camp scheduled for June 29 to July 26 with former NMI national coach and men's national team member Nick Swaim and Rudy del Rosario (coach of the Philippine Homeless World Cup Team) handling the camp," del Rosario added when asked about MPU Silver's chances for a sixth title.

Paire FC 4, Shirley's FC 0

In other results last Saturday, Paire FC blanked Shirley's, 4-0, to finish second in the six-team field.

Paire had a 7-1-2 record in the double round spring season, making 55 goals and allowing only 30 to its opponent, to edge Matansa (6-1-3) for the runner-up honors.

Brothers John and Daniel Auther scored in Paire's first and last goal in their final game of the season, while Joel Fruit and Jeff Cheon also added one goal each.

Shirley's completed the season at fourth place with its 3-0-7 card and tallied 12 goals.

Tan Holdings 3, MP United Blue 0

In the third and last game of the season, Tan Holdings was awarded the win via forfeit against MP United Blue.

Tan Holdings was ranked fifth after the season with its 2-1-7 slate and 14 goals for and 71 goals against, while MP United Blue finished the competition winless with one draw and had only five goals in 10 games.

IRISH

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Bracket A opener and had a rained-out match versus 8 Division on May 23, while AD-31 absorbed its second loss after three assignments.

Irish Spring seemed headed for the easy victory, as it led by double digits, 72-62, going into the final 2:30 of the game before Rod Sacramento led an 11-4 run to move AD-31 within three, 73-76, 22.3 seconds left in the match. Sacramento had a chance to cut the deficit to a deuce, as besides making his last basket, he also drew a foul on Art Trajano, but missed the bonus shot.

Down by three, AD-31 quickly fouled Trajano after the rebound play and the gamble paid off as the Irish Spring big men muffed both charities. However, Irish Spring trooped to the line anew, as after Trajano's second miss, he got the offensive board and passed the ball to guard Rick Brien, who then drew a foul on Baldo Lavarias.

Brien split his charities, giving Irish Spring more cushion, with less than 20 seconds left on the clock, and AD-31 failed to complete the come-from-behind win when Jimmy Florenco missed two crucial free throws and Lester Vertudez bungled an inside shot in the ensuing plays.

Sam Fernandez top-scored for Irish Spring with 14 points, while Bernard Samson added 10. Brien contributed 9 points, while Trajano, Jeff Garcia, and Cordero made 7 apiece, with the latter scoring all his points in the third to keep Irish Spring in the lead, 56-51.

Fastbreakers 86, Wushin 53

In the second game, the Fastbreakers cruised past Wushin, 86-53.

The Fastbreakers' young guns proved to be too much for the veteran crew of Wushin, which kept paced with its foe only in the first period before losing steam in the next three quarters.

After leading by 9 at the end of the opening canto, 18-9, the Fastbreakers slowly pulled away in the second period with Melvin Cadiang, Niko Salem, and Jack Aranda alternately doing the damage for the team.

The trio scored in double figures with Salem nailing 20 and Aranda and Cadiang chipping in 16 and 14, respectively. Adrian Palacios and Kevin De Leon also finished in twin digits with 10 each.

Jun Patawaran and Dick Tibayan were the only two Wushin players to fire double figures with 13 and 10, respectively.

The Fastbreakers notched their third win in as many games, while Wushin is still winless after three matches in Bracket B.

First Game

Irish Spring 77 – Fernandez 14, Samson 10, Brien 9, Trajano 7, Cordero 7, Garcia 7, B. Montano 6, Leong 6, J. Montano 2, Sarmiento 1.

AD-31 73 – Sacramento 21, Florendo 12, Tenorio 11, Vertudez 10, Lavarias 8, Culala 6, Anasan 2, Palomique 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-14, 35-27, 56-51, 77-73.

Second Game

Fastbreakers 86 – Salem 20, Aranda 16, Cadiang 14, Palacios 12, De Leon 12, Isip 8, Saturno 4, Taylor 2.

Wushin 53 – Patawaran 13, Tibayan 10, Tobias 6, Ebuen 5, De Belen 4, Schneider 4, Dacumos 4, De Jesus 2, Farinas 2.

Scoring by quarters: 18-9, 37-26, 56-36, 86-53.

CARANTO

From Page 32

lania and Obaldo edged Celso Agui and Loyda Ito, 21-16, 17-21, 21-15. Last Friday's games also had eight singles matches with four won after two games.

For the Saturday matchups, the first three singles pairings were decided in three games, while five of the last six were won in two games. In the mixed doubles, extended matches dominated the division, as six pairs needed three games to survive their respective opponents.

EVEN

From Page 32

ert Talavera (1,128), Raphael and Ruselle Zapanta (1,114), Raul Dumapit and Ed Baluyan (1,078), and Benjie Cruz and John Taisacan (1,052).

Raymond Zapanta, last year's May Masters winner, did not go empty handed this season, as he went home with the singles trophy after tallying a three-game total of 643 pinfalls, just 10 pinfalls ahead of Robles (633). Raymond played steady in the first two games with his 223 and 233 before drilling 187 in Game 3, while Robles had a 191 in Game 1 and threatened the former after a strong finish, posting 226 and 216 in the last two games. Omechelang rounded out the Top 3 with his 623 pinfalls (214, 220, and 189).

With Robles' consistent impressive showing in the singles, doubles, and team competitions, he ruled the all events, collecting 1,864 pinfalls in the series for an average of 207.11 pinfalls. He was the lone bowler to average in the 200s in the all events, as runner-up Castro mustered only 1,793 pinfalls for an average of 199.22. Raymond Zapanta joined Robles and Castro in the Top 3 with his total of 1,771 pinfalls (196.78 average).

Meanwhile, the quartet of Omechelang, Castro, Dumapit, and Paul Pangelinan won the team event after combining for 2,360 pinfalls. Dumapit scored the most in the team event with his 628 pinfalls, Omechelang contributed 604, while Pangelinan and Castro nailed 580 and 548, respectively.

The team of Rusty Musca (623), Bernard Paraiso (529), Soledad (470), and Robles (581) tallied 2,203 for second place, while Joe Sto. Domingo (530), Jonathan Eparwa (477), Ronald Epan (629), and Soledad (536) finished third with their 2,172 pinfalls.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	29	22	.569	–
Tampa Bay	29	22	.569	–
New York	27	23	.540	1 1/2
Toronto	27	24	.529	2
Boston	26	24	.520	2 1/2

Central Division

Chicago	29	22	.569	–
Cleveland	27	23	.540	1 1/2
Detroit	23	27	.460	5 1/2
Kansas City	21	28	.429	7
Minnesota	18	32	.360	10 1/2

West Division

Texas	31	20	.608	–
Los Angeles	26	26	.500	5 1/2
Seattle	23	30	.434	9
Oakland	22	29	.431	9

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	29	21	.580	–
Miami	29	22	.569	1/2
New York	28	23	.549	1 1/2
Atlanta	28	24	.538	2
Philadelphia	27	25	.519	3

Central Division

Cincinnati	28	22	.560	–
St. Louis	27	24	.529	1 1/2
Pittsburgh	25	25	.500	3
Houston	22	28	.440	6
Milwaukee	22	28	.440	6
Chicago	18	32	.360	10

West Division

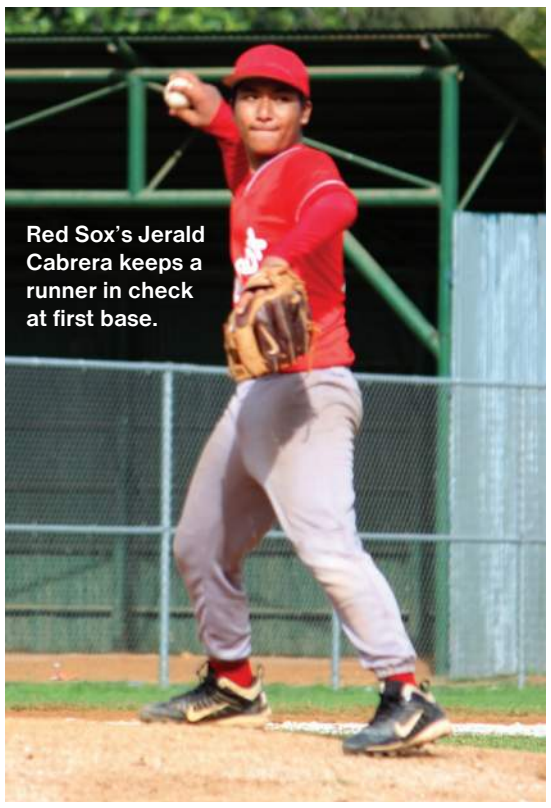
Los Angeles	32	18	.640	–
San Francisco	27	24	.529	5 1/2
Arizona	23	28	.451	9 1/2
Colorado	20	29	.408	11 1/2
San Diego	17	35	.327	16

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2012 Junior League Championship

PHOTOS By
WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Red Sox's Won Jong Seo tries to drag a bunt down the first base line against Ol'Aces during their Saipan Little League-Junior Division championship game last May 27 at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

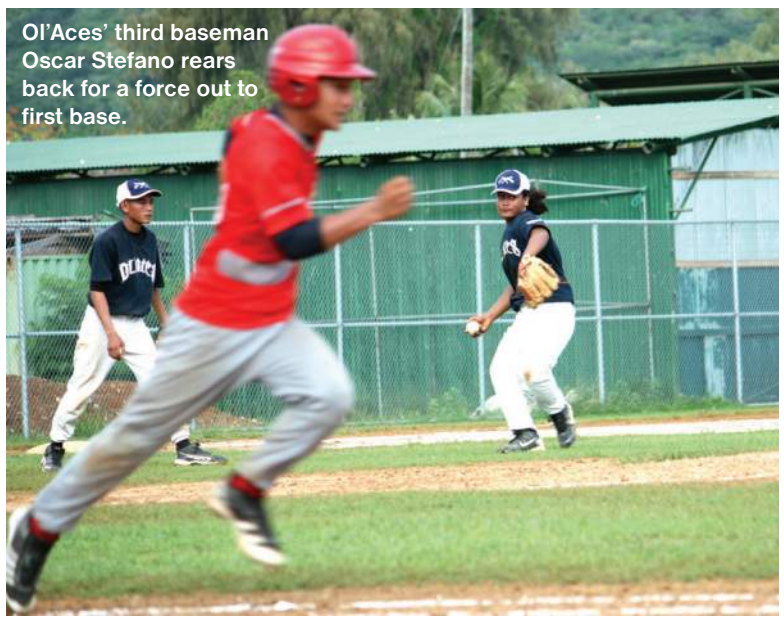


Red Sox's Jerald Cabrera keeps a runner in check at first base.

Ol'Aces pitcher Jimmy Brel fields a dribbler back to the mound and looks to first base to complete the play.

Ol'Aces' league batting champ Mike Muna eyes an incoming pitch.

Ol'Aces' catcher Verlance Secharmidal denies Red Sox's Roke Tenorio access to the plate.



Ol'Aces' third baseman Oscar Stefano rears back for a force out to first base.

Red Sox's Jhace Palacios stretches out to complete a force out at second base.

Red Sox's Melvin Sakisat smiles after snagging a one-hopper down the third base line for what turned out to be the game-ending double-play.

Red Sox coaches, from far right, Anthony Leon Guerrero, Bernard Cabrera, and Randall Aguon react joyously to the game-ending double play.

Ol'Aces Jimmy Brel, left, breaks for second base as Red Sox first baseman Nathan Camacho hustles to retrieve a wild throw.

Heat survive Rondo's huge night, win in OT

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Mariners use 2 8-run innings to rout Rangers

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MP United Silver completes perfect season

RELATED NEWS
Tan Holdings still unbeaten in inter-group PAGE 30

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Powerhouse MP United Silver finished the 2012 NMIFA Youth Spring League unscathed for its fifth straight championship in the boys U15 division.

The Norman Del Rosario-coached MP United Silver capped its perfect season after shutting out Matansa Football Club last Saturday, 5-0. Five different players scored for MPU Silver in its last game of the season with Jehn Joyner and Ryota Ito drilling one goal each in the first half. In the second half, it was John Taisacan, Daniel Lim, and Dakota Hall's turn to light up the scoreboard.

See MP UNITED on Page 30

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Members of the MP United Silver pose for a group photo after completing a sweep of the boys U15 division of the NMIFA spring season last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Irish Spring breaks into win column

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Irish Spring's Bernard Montano goes up for his patented fallaway baseline jumper against AD-31 defenders during the fourth quarter of their game in the DLX B league at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court last Wednesday night.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Irish Spring thwarted AD-31's late rally to eke out a 77-73 victory in the curtain-raiser in the 2012 DLX Inter-Color Basketball League last Wednesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

The win was only the first in three games for Irish Spring, which bowed to LD Prime in the

See IRISH on Page 30

Caranto, Boranah top foes in Week 2

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Jexler Caranto and Kim Boranah showed tough form in Week 2 of the IT&E Singles & Mixed Doubles Badminton Tournament 2012 played at the NMBA Gym at the TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai.

Caranto pulled off an upset over Rodwealth Espana in the men's B singles last Friday despite losing the first game. Espana won the opening game by four points, 17-21, but Caranto recovered in the last two games, 21-10, 21-17, to steal the win. Before his three-game win over Espana, Caranto first swept Aries Cordero, 21-6, 21-14.

Also winning in two games in the women's B singles was Boranah, who downed Shirley Kim last Saturday, 21-8, 21-14.

Then last Sunday, Boranah and Caranto teamed up in sweeping Roger Vales and Babes Cielo in the mixed doubles B, 21-18, 21-10.

Other winners in the mixed doubles B last Sunday were Ramir Belialba and Cristy Villaflor against Jeff Riman and Annette Quiambao, 21-19, 21-18; Vic Regis and Marylyn Montano versus Joel and Alma Ortega, 17-21, 21-16, 24-22; and Wowie Abuel and Jane Tupaz over Riman and Quiambao, 17-21, 21-8, 21-14.

In the mixed doubles C, Brandon Talania and Roma Barlao, Son Jae Ok and Fen Luan Li, and Belialba and Irish Pagarao made short work of their respective foes, while Dick Koo and Woo Kyung Bae and Rommel Bartolome and Tupaz needed three games to thwart their separate opponents.

In the tough mixed doubles A, Ferdie Arago and Lani Bartolome recorded a 21-16, 21-13 win over Jerry Hibi and Toshiko Obata, who also bowed to Hapi Gabriel and Hannah Choi, 18-21, 15-21. The third game in the mixed doubles A was extended in three games with Andreau Galvez and Angie Ito slipping past Sam Jones and Loyda Ito, 21-16, 19-21, 21-18.

In the singles games last Sunday, winning their respective games were men's A's Macoi Aguda, men's B's Regis, and Oh Imbog, men's C's Riman, Son Jae Ok, Ortega, and women's C's Pagarao.

In last Friday's results, Melvin Capalad and Mulan Ta, Panapa Peteru and Lazaro, and the Ortegas swept their foes, while Bernard Aquino and Christina Ta prevailed in three games in the mixed doubles C. In mixed doubles B, Imbog and Obata topped Chirs Hilario and Annette Ta, 21-19, 21-14, while Ta-

See CARANTO on Page 30

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Jexler Caranto goes for a smash during his and Kim Boranah's game against Roger Vales and Babes Cielo in the mixed doubles B division of the IT&E tournament last Sunday at the NMBA Gym at the TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Winners in the 30th CNMI May Masters Tournament gather for a group photo after the awards ceremony last Sunday at the Shirley's Coffee Shop in Susupe.

Even field in men's May Masters

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The men's division of the 30th CNMI May Masters Tournament had a balance competition, as the three-day event produced different winners.

Alex Castro and Robert Talavera took the doubles crown, Raymond Zapanta topped the singles division, and Danny Robles prevailed in the all events to join May Masters champion Percy Omechelang in the winners' circle.

Castro and Talavera combined for 1,278 pinfalls in six games with the former carding a field-best 675 in three games and the latter adding 603. The duo won by 45 pinfalls against runners-up Jorge Soledad (583) and Robles (650), who totaled 1,233. Completing the Top 3 were Zapanta (579) and Guam's Jay Leon Guerrero (644), who compiled 1,223 pinfalls.

Other pairs who joined the doubles event were Lito Teodoro and Rob-

See EVEN on Page 30